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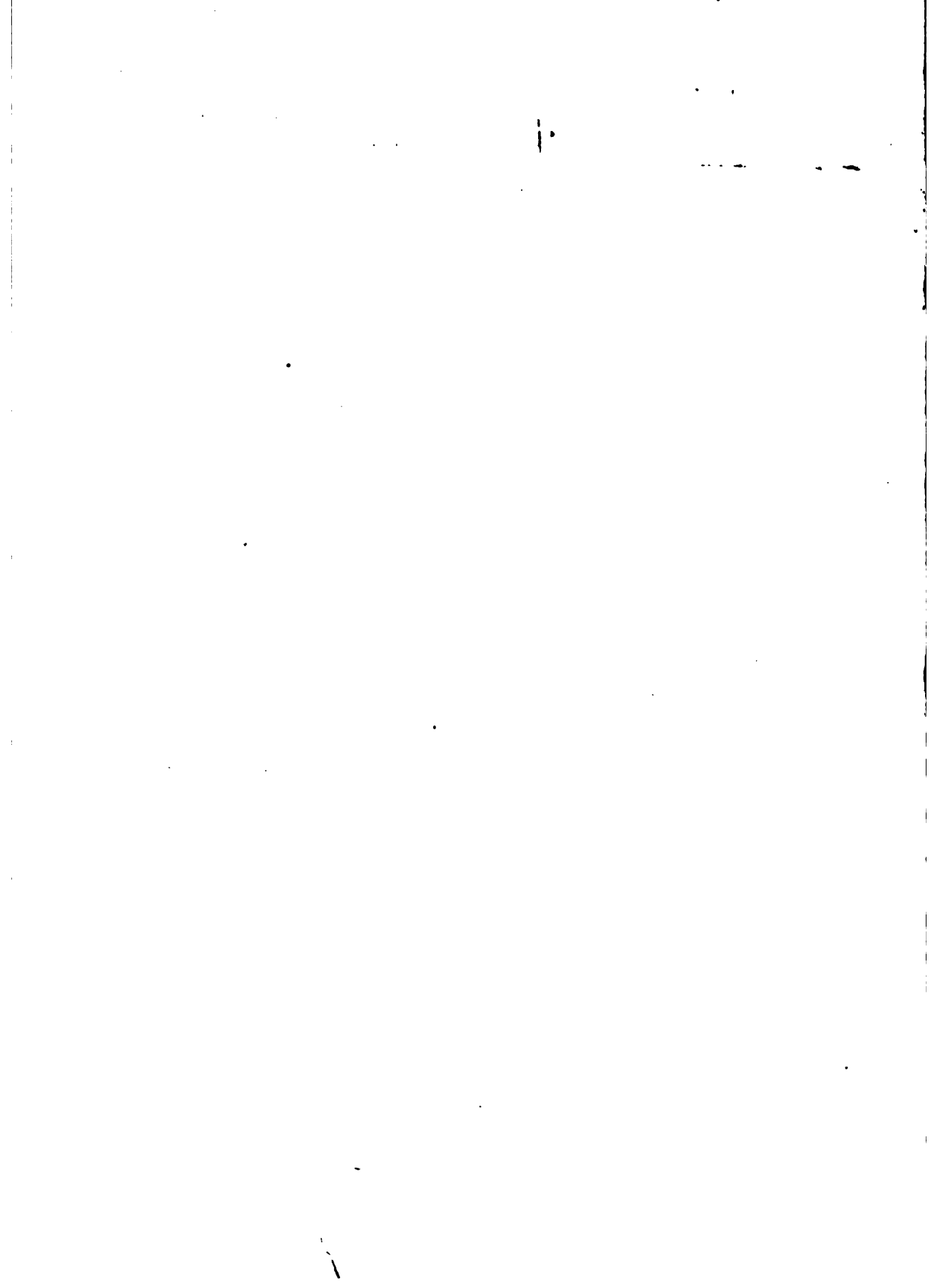
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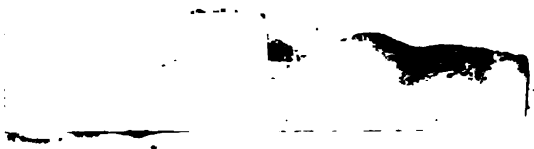
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HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

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WORK OF THE

AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF REVISION

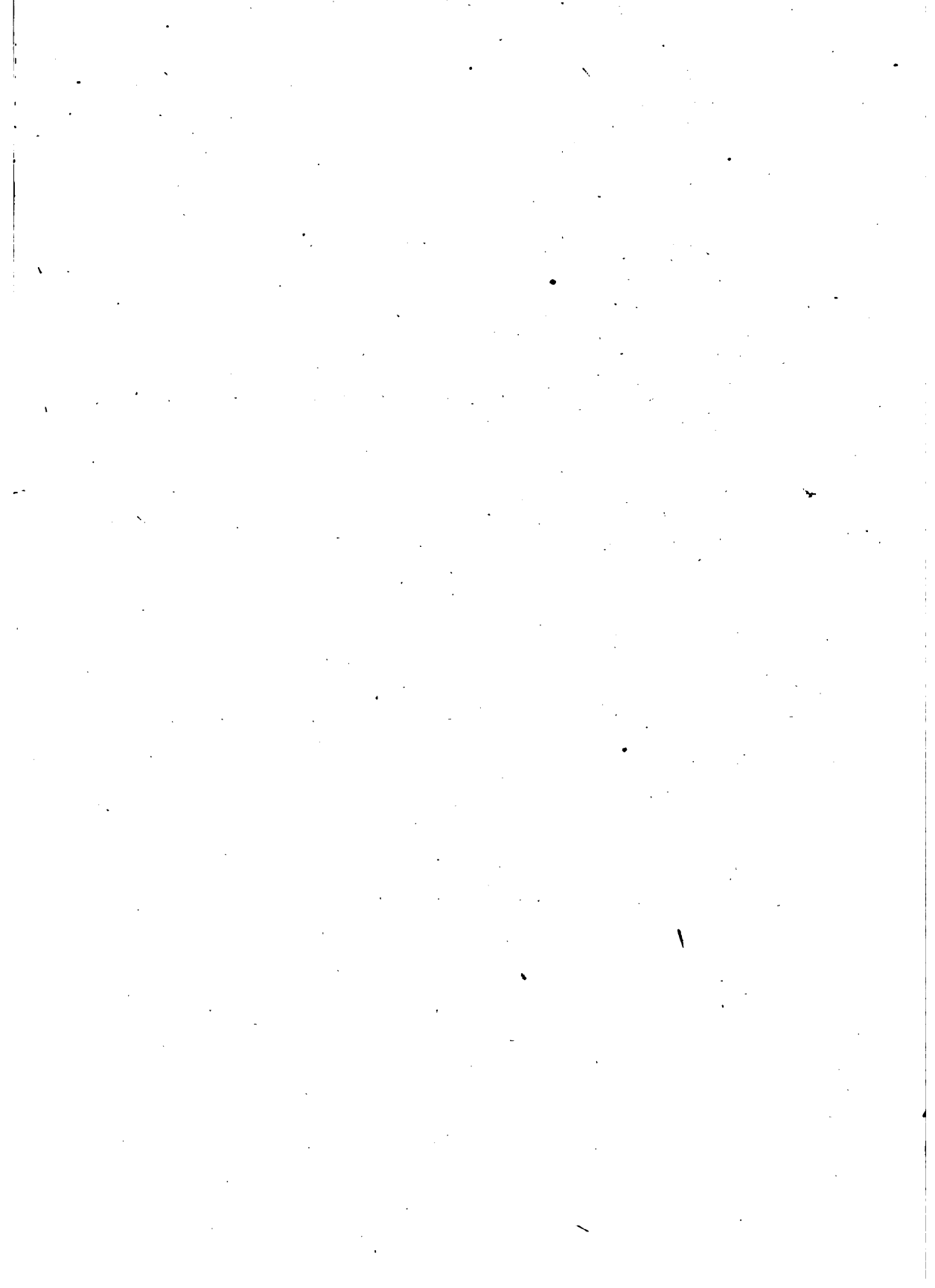
OF THE

Authorized English Version of the Bible,

PREPARED FROM THE DOCUMENTS  
AND CORRESPONDENCE OF THE COMMITTEE.

NEW YORK:  
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS.  
1885.





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Dr Philip S. Long,

San Francisco,

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

THE following Historical Account of the Anglo-American Revision of the English Version of the Bible, so far as it relates to the work of the American Committee, is based upon the documents and correspondence in their possession, and is, accordingly, of the nature of a Documentary History. These documents and papers were arranged with great care by the President, Rev. Philip Schaff, D.D., and presented by him to the Committee at their meeting in May, 1884; whereupon it was voted that an Historical Account should be prepared under the direction of a special committee of three appointed for the purpose. At a subsequent meeting of the Committee of Revision, held at the Bible House, New York, on the 28th of November, 1884, the History which is contained in this volume was read, and the following vote was unanimously passed :

“That the Documentary History of the Revision which has now been presented be adopted and printed, and that a copy of the same be sent to each subscriber to the Memorial Edition of the Revised Version of the Old Testament.”

*May 21, 1885.*





# HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

## OF THE WORK

### OF THE

## AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF REVISION.

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THE American Committee of Bible Revision, as they close the labors in which they have been engaged for more than twelve years, desire to present to those who have co-operated with them by providing for the necessary expenses of their undertaking, a brief historical account of the origin and progress of the work. Such an account demands for its completeness a statement respecting the organization of the English Committee, and the purpose which the Convocation of Canterbury had in view in calling it into being and committing to it its appointed task. The American body, as is well known, was invited to act by the Committee which had already been constituted in England. It was thus summoned to participate in a work, the aim and principles of which were determined before it began to exist, and no proper understanding of its own history can be reached, except as the history of what had taken place on the other side of the Atlantic is made known.

For this reason the Committee avail themselves of an "Authoritative Exposition of the History and Purpose of Revision," which appeared in the *London Times* (weekly edition), May 20, 1881, and was understood to have been written by a late prominent member of the New Testament Company,—believing that it will give the clearest and briefest presentation of what is introductory to the narrative of their own work, while, at the same time, it will describe the method of working in America as well as in England. This Exposition is in the following words:

"On a December day, 346 years ago, the members of the Upper House of the Convocation of Canterbury were engaged on the same subject which will this day come before that ancient body

—the faithful rendering of the Holy Scriptures into the vulgar tongue. They then unanimously agreed that the King should vouchsafe to decree that the Scriptures should be translated “by some honest and learned men to be nominated by the King, and to be delivered to the people according to their learning.” As we know, no immediate results followed this very laudable resolution. The King, however, two years afterwards, made a proclamation in which, while he stoutly forbade the public reading of the Scriptures in English, he did, nevertheless, graciously allow “such as can and will read in the English tongue” to do so “quietly and reverently,” and “by themselves secretly, at all times and places convenient for their own instruction.” The Archbishop, too, appears to have done his best. Cranmer is said to have sent portions of Tyndale’s Testament to several bishops to be reviewed and considered, and it is said that all returned their revisions. But there the matter ended. The subject, indeed, was revived in 1542, but in a reactionary spirit, and in the sequel with an equally unproductive result.

The Convocation of Canterbury of our own day have, however, been more fortunate. They have not only suggested that a faithful rendering of the Scriptures should be undertaken, but, by means of members of their own body and co-optated scholars and divines, they have completed one portion of the work, and to-day will publicly receive it. The Revised Version of the New Testament will be presented this morning to both Houses of Convocation.

Before we make any comments on the work itself we may, perhaps not unprofitably, give our readers some general account of the origin of this really great undertaking, and briefly specify the manner in which the work has been done. Our columns for the last eleven years have contained short notices of the meetings that have been held by the Companies, and of the silent progress of the work. We may now give the history of that progress, and also mention the various circumstances connected with the early history of that portion of the work that has now been completed.

To find the true origin of this undertaking we must look back about twenty-five years. The year 1856 was marked by several distinct movements in favor of a revision of the Authorised Version, and by one particularly, on which, as a sort of first step in the now completed work, it may be desirable to speak a little in detail. The subject was alluded to both in Convocation and in



Parliament. On February 1, 1856, the late Canon Selwyn, who had long been deeply interested in the subject, gave notice in the Southern Convocation of a resolution in which Convocation was to pray the Sovereign to appoint a Royal Commission for receiving and suggesting amendments in the Authorised Version of the Bible. The same course was recommended in Parliament by Mr. Heywood, one of the members for North Lancashire ; but in both cases the result was the same. Neither the clerical nor the lay mind was prepared for such a leap in the dark as the appointment of a commission to modify the venerable version that has so long maintained its supremacy. Sir George Grey more blandly, and Archdeacon Denison more trenchantly, disposed of the Royal Commission, and, as far as any public action went, no steps were taken, though there were few probably, either in Convocation or Parliament, who did not feel that the subject could not long be postponed.

Private effort, however, was much more successful. The Rev. Ernest Hawkins, then secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, was so deeply impressed with the importance of making some organized effort that he determined to try and gather together a small body of scholars that should undertake the revision of a portion of the New Testament, and that should show by actual results not only that the work needed to be done, but that it could be done, and that, too, on safe and conservative principles. After many efforts he succeeded in gaining the support and co-operation of a few scholars who were known, either by their works or by general reputation, to be interested in the study of the New Testament. He drew together, in the summer of 1856, the Rev. Henry Alford, afterwards Dean of Canterbury ; Rev. John Barrow, D.D., Principal of St. Edmund Hall ; Rev. C. J. Ellicott, now Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol ; Rev. W. H. G. Humphry, Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields ; and Rev. G. Moberly, D.C.L., then Head-Master of Winchester College and now Bishop of Salisbury. These five scholars agreed to make an attempt by the revision of the Authorised Version of St. John's Gospel. They began their work in the autumn, meeting regularly at the vicarage of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, with their gentle taskmaster, Ernest Hawkins, acting frequently as their secretary, and they concluded the first portion of their revision in the course of the ensuing year. The Preface—a composition that will still bear attentive perusal—was written by Dr. Moberly ; the press

arrangements were superintended by Canon Hawkins ; and a thin volume in royal octavo, bearing the title "The Authorised Version of St. John's Gospel, revised by Five Clergymen," appeared in March, 1857, as the first sample of a revision of the Authorised Version produced by the co-operation of several different minds. It was followed by the Epistle to the Romans, the Epistles to the Corinthians (the preface to which was written by Professor Elliott), and subsequently by the Epistles to the Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians, by four of the number, Dr. Barrow having then left England. The work was very favorably received both in England and America. It received the commendation of Archbishop Trench, and was spoken of in America by Mr. Marsh, in his lectures on the English language, as "by far the most judicious modern recension" that was known to him. It passed through several editions, and, though now almost forgotten, must certainly be considered as the germ of the present revision. It showed clearly two things—first, that a revision could be made without seriously interfering with either the diction or the rhythm of the Authorised Version ; secondly, that a revision, if made at all, must be made by a similar co-operation of independent minds and by corporate and collegiate discussion. A third fact also was disclosed which had a salutary effect in checking premature efforts—viz., that, as these revisers themselves said, the work was "one of extreme difficulty," and of a difficulty which they believed was "scarcely capable of being entirely surmounted." And they were right : the present revision, good in the main as we certainly believe it will be found to be, confirms the correctness of their experience. As we shall hereafter see, there are difficulties connected with a conservative revision of the existing translation of the Greek Testament that are practically insuperable.

After this effort, which from the very first was felt to be only prelude and tentative, the immediate interest in revision sensibly languished. There were those, however, who were determined that the efforts already made should not become utterly fruitless. As year by year went onward, every change in public opinion was closely watched by those who had taken part in the revision just mentioned, and especially by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol and Dean Alford. It was thought in 1869 that many things pointed to a revival in the interest felt in the revision. The Bishop and Dean frequently conferred on the subject, consulted all those who were in any degree likely to forward the under-

taking, and at length obtained the hearty aid and support of Bishop Wilberforce. The Bishop entered into the movement with real interest, and, as the sequel proved, materially contributed to its finally receiving a definite and authoritative sanction. The real difficulty was how to break ground. It was urged by those most interested that precedent seemed in favor of a Royal Commission. In the revision of 1611 the King was the sole actor; and, in the case of the only other Bible that rests on any really valid authority, the Great Bible, the king's vicegerent, Lord Cromwell, has always been deemed to have been the real mover, and the one to whom the sole editor, Coverdale, was entirely responsible. It was also not forgotten that, in the two abortive attempts in Parliament and Convocation which have been already referred to, the proposal to proceed by way of a Royal Commission was not in itself objected to. There was, further, this very important consideration, that the extreme difficulties connected with the choice of those who were to undertake the revision would be much diminished in the case of a Royal designation. Those not chosen would be more likely to accept the decision, and in the sequel to prove more impartial and tolerant critics. The *spretæ injuria formæ*, as the case of Hugh Broughton in reference to the Authorised Version very distinctly shows, and as the Revision of 1881 will also find out to its cost, is a very serious element in the early criticisms that are passed upon a work done by a necessarily selected few out of a larger and hardly less competent body. For these reasons it was deemed desirable that an address to the Crown should be moved for in the House of Lords, and in the following terms: "That a humble address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to appoint a Royal Commission to revise the Authorised Version in all those passages where clear and plain errors, whether in the Greek text originally adopted by the translators, or in the translation made from the same, shall, on due investigation, be found to exist." Before, however, so responsible a step was taken, careful inquiry was made how far such a resolution would obtain the support of those in authority. It was found that support could not be promised. It was pointed out that the choice of the future revisers would involve the greatest possible difficulties; that a Commission, really to carry weight, must be very inclusive; and that both its size and the necessarily heterogeneous nature of its elements would involve difficulties in the execution of the work, and still more in the final reception of

it, that were judged to be too great to justify the experiment. The advice, frankly and considerately given, was acted upon, and the plan of a Royal Commission was at once given up.

It was obvious that the only other authoritative body before which the subject could be brought was Convocation. It was, indeed, feared that if Convocation undertook the work it would not unnaturally choose the revisers mainly out of its own members, and that thus, however well the work might be done, the results would never secure a really national acceptance. Still, there was no choice left. If Convocation were not applied to, it was clear the work would have to be postponed till a Royal Commission might seem more attainable; and this, with the rapid movement of modern thought, and the necessity for the inclusion of very heterogeneous elements, would evidently become year by year a more hopeless anticipation. So it was finally resolved to bring the subject before Convocation, and to place that confidence in the wisdom of the venerable body which the sequel showed was not placed there in vain.

All was then arranged, and on February 10, 1870, the then Bishop of Winchester moved, and the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol seconded, the following resolution :

“That a committee of both Houses be appointed, with power to confer with any committee that may be appointed by the Convocation of the Northern Province, to report upon the desirableness of a revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament, whether by marginal notes or otherwise, in all those passages where plain and clear errors, whether in the Greek text originally adopted by the translators, or in the translation made from the same, shall on due investigation be found to exist.”

The resolution was afterwards extended, on the motion of the Bishop of Llandaff, seconded by the Bishop of St. David's (Dr. Thirlwall), to the Old Testament; the necessary words were inserted; the practically unanimous assent of the House was given to the amended resolution, and a committee appointed. The committee consisted of the Bishops of Winchester (Dr. Wilberforce), Gloucester and Bristol, St. David's, Llandaff, Ely (Dr. Browne), Lincoln, Bath and Wells, and Salisbury. This resolution was communicated at once to the Lower House, and there assented to very readily. It was moved by Canon Selwyn, and seconded by Dr. Jebb, that the Convocations of Armagh and



Dublin should be consulted, as well as the Convocation of York, but this addition seems afterwards to have fallen through. The following committee of the Lower House was then appointed: The Prolocutor (Dr. Bickersteth), the Deans of Canterbury (Dr. Alford), Westminster, and Lincoln (Dr. Jeremie); the Archdeacons of Bedford (Mr. Rose), Exeter (Mr. Freeman), and Rochester; Chancellor Massingberd; Canons Blakesley, How, Selwyn, Swainson, and Woodgate; Dr. Kay, Dr. Jebb, and Mr. De Winton.

The subject was discussed shortly afterwards by the Convocation of York, but, unfortunately, owing to completely exaggerated fears as to the nature of the proposal, the Northern Convocation declined to co-operate.

The Joint Committee of the Convocation of Canterbury, formed of the two lists just specified, met March 24, 1870, and drew up their report in the form of the following resolutions:

"1. That it is desirable that a revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures be undertaken.

"2. That the revision be so conducted as to comprise both marginal renderings and such emendations as it may be found necessary to insert in the text of the Authorised Version.

"3. That in the above resolutions we do not contemplate any new translation of the Bible, or any alteration of the language, except where in the judgment of the most competent scholars such change is necessary.

"4. That in such necessary changes the style of the language employed in the existing version be closely followed.

"5. That it is desirable that Convocation should nominate a body of its own members to undertake the work of revision, who shall be at liberty to invite the co-operation of any eminent for scholarship, to whatever nation or religious body they may belong."

The report was presented May 3, and the following resolution adopted:

"That a committee be now appointed to consider and report to Convocation a scheme of revision on the principles laid down in the report now adopted. That the Bishops of Winchester, St. David's, Llandaff, Gloucester and Bristol, Salisbury, Ely, Lincoln, and Bath and Wells, be members of the committee. That the committee be empowered to invite the co-operation of those whom

they may judge fit from their Biblical scholarship to aid them in their work."

This resolution was communicated to the Lower House. After one day of discussion, and some consideration of details on the following day, the report of the large Joint Committee was adopted, and the following members of the Lower House appointed to co-operate with the Bishops above mentioned in carrying out the work: the Prolocutor, the Deans of Canterbury and Westminster, the Archdeacon of Bedford, Canons Selwyn and Blakesley, Dr. Jebb, and Dr. Kay.

This second or, so to speak, executive, committee then seriously took the work in hand. They first met May 25, divided themselves into two bodies, or, as they were afterwards called, Companies, the one for the Old Testament, the other for the New, and proceeded to the difficult and delicate task of choosing colleagues, and of framing general and special rules for the carrying on of the work. The labors of the Committee were lightened by the fact that those originally most interested in the cause had already carefully collected the names of scholars who were judged to be most likely to aid the undertaking, and, when the Committee met, had a sufficiently full list to present to it. The general and special rules had also been prepared beforehand in draft by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and were accepted with but slight modifications.

The names of those invited at the above meeting, and at a short subsequent meeting on July 5, to become members of the Old Testament Company were as follow: Rev. Dr. W. L. Alexander, Mr. Bensly, Professor Chenery, Rev. Canon Cook, Rev. Professor A. B. Davidson, Rev. Dr. B. Davies, Rev. Dr. Douglas, Professor Fairbairn, Rev. F. Field, Rev. J. D. Geden, Rev. Dr. Ginsburg, Rev. Dr. Gotch, Ven. Archdeacon Harrison, Rev. Professor Leathes, Rev. Professor M'Gill, Rev. Canon Payne Smith, Rev. Professor J. H. Perowne, Rev. Professor Plumptre, Rev. Canon Pusey, Rev. Dr. Weir, Dr. Wright (British Museum), and Mr. W. A. Wright (Cambridge).

The names of those invited at the meetings of May 25 and July 5 to become members of the New Testament Company were as follow: The Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of St. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Angus, Rev. Dr. David Brown, Rev. F. J. A. Hort, Rev. Prebendary Humphry, Rev. Canon Kennedy, Ven. Archdeacon

Lee, Rev. Dr. Lightfoot, Rev. Professor Milligan, Rev. Professor Moulton, Rev. Dr. Newman, Rev. Professor Newth, Rev. Dr. Roberts, Rev. G. Vance Smith, Rev. Dr. Scott (Master of Balliol College), Rev. Dr. Scrivener, Rev. Dr. Thompson (Master of Trinity College, Cambridge), Rev. Dr. Tregelles, Rev. Dr. Vaughan, and Rev. Canon Westcott.

Of this long list of names some declined to take the position offered to them, though in every case with a courteous and friendly recognition of the proffered honor. Among these were Canons Cook and Pusey, Dr. Thompson and Dr. Newman. The Bishop of Lincoln and Dr. Jebb also soon afterwards resigned their places on the Old Testament Company. Of the New Testament Company (with which we are now more immediately concerned), it may be here mentioned that four were removed by death previous to the completion of the work—viz., Dean Alford, Dr. Tregelles, Bishop Wilberforce and Dr. Eadie. As Dr. Tregelles was never able to attend, and Bishop Wilberforce only attended once, their places were not filled up. The place of Dean Alford was supplied by Dean Merivale, who, after attending for a short time, resigned, and was succeeded by Professor Palmer, now Archdeacon of Oxford. The place of Dr. Eadie was not filled up, as his death took place at a time when much of the work was done. The number of the working members of the New Testament Company was thus for the greater portion of the time twenty-four, and so continued to the close of the work.

The first meeting of the New Testament Company took place on June 22, 1870, under the presidency of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who held the position of chairman uninterruptedly to the end of the ten years and a half, over which the labors of the revision extended. The titular chairman, Bishop Wilberforce, attended once for about a couple of hours; but it became, even in that time, apparent to the Company, and perhaps was so to the Bishop himself, that a little lighter hand and looser rein were required to guide the Company pleasantly through the intricacies of criticism and scholarship in which they were almost hourly finding themselves involved. The Bishop, however, remained a kind friend to the movement, which his own eloquence had so largely assisted, and was interested in it to the time of his lamented death.

During the remainder of the year the work went quietly onward. The New Testament Company found an able and accurate

secretary in the Rev. J. Troutbeck, one of the Minor Canons of Westminster, and soon became thoroughly organized and habituated to their complicated labors. In the second year of the work some difficulties that beset them were completely removed. The Delegates of the Oxford University Press and the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press entered into a liberal arrangement with the two Companies by which funds were regularly forthcoming for all their expenses. It may be remembered that the revisers of 1611 were by no means so fortunate, and that the way in which their expenses were met during the greater period of their labors was very far from satisfactory.

The year that followed was marked by an event of great importance to the cause of revision—the formation in America of two Committees \* to co-operate with the two English Companies. Into the details of this movement in America, all of which are full of interest, our space will not allow us to enter. In this more general narrative it may be enough to say that on July 7, 1870, it was moved in the Lower House of Convocation by the present Prolocutor (Lord Alwyne Compton) that the Upper House should be requested to instruct the Committee of Convocation “to invite the co-operation of some American divines.” This was at once assented to by the Upper House. It was, we believe, afterwards unofficially agreed that Bishop Wilberforce and the Dean of Westminster should undertake to act for the Committee in opening communications—the Bishop with the Episcopal Church, the Dean with the leading members of other communions. The result of this was that towards the close of 1871 two Committees were formed in America to communicate with the two English Companies on the basis of the rules that had been already laid down for the revisers in this country. Very soon afterwards portions of the first revision that had by that time been finished in England were transmitted to America, and a system of communication fully established. The work then went on continuously in both countries, the English Companies revising, and the American Committees reviewing what was thus revised, and returning their suggestions, both as regards the first and second revision, to the two Companies at Westminster. The volume that will be published this day will contain a list of readings and renderings in which the American divines ultimately differ from the revisers in

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[\* One Committee, divided into two Companies.]

this country. When this list is fully considered, the general reader will, we think, be surprised to find that the differences are really of such little moment, and in very many cases will probably wonder that the American divines thought it worth while thus to formally record their dissent.\*

Such is a brief sketch of the history of the movement. It may now be convenient to mention the manner in which the actual work of revision was carried on by the Company. This will be more easily understood if we specify the principal rules which were laid down at the commencement of the undertaking, and to which allusion has already been made in the earlier part of this narrative. These rules were as follows :

"1. To introduce as few alterations as possible in the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness.

"2. To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions.

"3. Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.

"4. That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.

"5. To make or retain no change in the text on the second final revision by each Company except two-thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.

"6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.

"7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.

"8. To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions."

In conformity with these rules the whole of the Authorised Version of the New Testament underwent a first revision. This

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[\* With this judgment few Americans will agree.]



extended over six years. The results were arrived at, in accordance with rule 5, by simple majorities, the Authorised Version having no further advantage than this—that it was considered to be the form before the Company, and that in accordance with the system of voting in the House of Lords it was maintained if the votes were equal. This first revision was transmitted, portion by portion, to America, and returned with the suggestions of the American Committee, their rules (as we have already implied) being the same as those laid down for the English Company.

On the completion of the first revision, the whole was gone over again, with the advantage of the criticisms and suggestions of the American Committee, but the voting was under changed principles. The Authorised Version was placed in a position of distinct advantage, and if raised in competition with the first revision, whether English or American, could only be prevented from returning by two-thirds voting against it. Where there was a difference of reading in the Greek, the rule of two-thirds was not considered applicable, and the question was decided by a simple majority. Many renderings that had been removed from the Authorised Version were thus brought back again, though by no means to so large an extent as might have been beforehand supposed. The Company had been silently accumulating for itself a rough code of principles, and commonly remained true to them, even when the Authorised Version was raised in opposition to the newly formed revision. Close and continued inspection had also served to reveal that, admirable and thoroughly idiomatic as the Authorised Version might be, it was frequently very far from consistent: nay, even that it studiously affected a variety of diction when there was nothing to justify it in the original. These and other considerations led to the maintenance of the first revision to a greater extent than at first seemed probable.

The second revision, like the first, was communicated, portion by portion, to the American Committee, and by them returned with criticisms and suggestions. This, combined with the obvious necessity of endeavoring to preserve a harmony of rendering, as far as it was reasonable and possible, led to a further review of the whole work, under, however, this common-sense condition, that the now twice-revised version was not to be changed except by a majority of two-thirds. The Revised Version, in fact, then had the prerogative which had belonged to the Authorised Version at an earlier stage of the work.

Such in general outline was the course of the procedure. Fuller details will be found in the Preface, but the above fairly represents the broad principles on which the Revised Version was constructed, and will probably suggest some confidence in the results. The Authorised Version had that supremacy assigned to it which the spirit of the rules absolutely required, and which, it may be said, the revisers were always ready most loyally to concede to it. The occasions, however, would of course be many in which the grave question of what constitutes "faithfulness" (Rule 1) would be somewhat differently interpreted by the individual members of a large company. A merely tentative revision, after which much would still remain to be done at a future time, would have been a grave mistake. This has certainly not been the case with the present work. Revision has been carried out to a fair and reasonable extent, but not, as it would appear, in any degree beyond it.

The same remark applies in great measure to the critical work of the Company in connection with the Greek text, which, we are glad to find, is to be published in a clear and handsome form by the University Press of Oxford. The principle in regard to textual criticism, it will be observed, was prescribed to be that of change only on "decidedly preponderating evidence." But here, as in the case of faithfulness in regard to the rendering, it is obvious that the estimate of what really constitutes decidedly preponderating evidence will be widely different with equally honest and impartial critics. To one, the long array of uncial witnesses, even though it may be almost certain that the mass of them were reproductions of some common exemplar, will seem clearly to constitute "decidedly preponderating evidence." To another, who may be guided by the well-known canon *non numerare sed appendere*, the concurrence of a comparatively small number of ancient authorities, representing independent textual traditions, and found by experience to be most worthy of credit, may be regarded, and justly regarded, as distinctly evidence of the nature referred to in the rule. It seems clear that this last was the prevailing interpretation given to the rule by the majority of the Company, so that, in textual criticism as well as rendering, a decided line has been taken, and a standard maintained happily beyond that of a mere provisional and temporary revision.

There seems reason to believe that a close examination will show this to have been very consistently maintained, and that the evil of a text sometimes up to a good critical standard, and some-

times decidedly below it, has been successfully avoided. It might have been supposed from the action of the rule requiring two-thirds to reverse a reading supposed to underlie the Authorised Version, and, still more, from the necessarily fluctuating nature of the Company from month to month, and sometimes even from day to day, that such a standard could hardly have been maintained. It must, however, be remembered that loyalty to principles already felt out would always tend to repress any disturbing use of the rule; and, further, that, in spite of fluctuations, there was a stable element in the Company which greatly helped in keeping up its traditions and principles. The punctuality of attendance is, indeed, one of the most striking features of this undertaking; and when the length of the time is considered, and the distances at which many of the members resided from the place of meeting, probably unexampled in the history of committees. Out of the 407 meetings the chairman attended 405 times. Some others reached also a very high standard; and, of those who attended more than three-fourths of the whole series of meetings, the number amounted fully to one-third of the whole Company. The existence of this comparatively stable element has tended to preserve harmony and consistency, and will be found to have been an important element in the success which we believe has been achieved by the work.

A very noticeable feature in the volume is the large amount of marginal notes. Of these some are short notes bearing on differences of reading in the Greek text adopted by the revisers, but the greater number are short notes specifying differences of rendering, which, either as having been preferred by a minority of the Company or as having been advocated by scholars of eminence, it seemed proper to specify. In the case of the Authorised Version, it has often been said that the marginal note presents the rendering which was probably deemed by the revisers of that day to be really the most accurate. However this may be, the remark will not apply to the Revised Version. The text adopted represents that rendering which was deemed by at least one-third of the Company then present to be correct in the case of maintaining a rendering of the Authorised Version, and of at least two-thirds in departing from it. The text, therefore, as is obviously most desirable, records plainly the opinion either of the actual clear majority of those who considered and discussed the rendering, or of that portion of them which constituted a legal majority.

We have thus in the Revised Version a clear expression of an opinion, and are left in no uncertainty, as is sometimes the case in the Authorised Version, as to the actual meaning that is deemed to be conveyed by the original Greek.

The last portion of the work of the revisers is the Preface, a carefully constructed and elaborate document, in which the principles on which the revision has been made are set forth with considerable fulness of detail. This important introduction to the study of the volume was thus constructed: it was prepared in draft by the chairman several months before the conclusion of the work. A copy was sent round to each member inviting remarks and corrections. The copies so sent out were returned to the chairman, and formed the basis of a second and revised edition of the original draft. The document so amended was finally considered by the whole body collectively, and, after careful revision, accepted as the authoritative description of their work. It is to be hoped, in justice to the revision, that no formal criticisms will be passed on the labors of the Company until this careful and explicit document has been thoroughly mastered. If it teaches anything it will teach this—first, that the revision of a translation such as the Authorized Version is a work of almost insuperable difficulty; secondly, that criticism, to be just, must not content itself with merely sporadic approval or disapproval of the renderings adopted, but must first intelligently master all the circumstances, conditions, and modifying details of the highly complicated undertaking.

What is stated by the revisers on the subject of alterations rendered necessary *by consequence* is well worthy of the most careful attention. From the single example that is adduced it will readily be inferred what strong reasons there may be in the background for changes which a mere off-hand critic might condemn with some passing show of plausibility. A work executed with the obvious care and devotion to the subject which every paragraph of the revision abundantly displays may, with justice, deprecate a criticism that has not taken equal pains to arrive at the true aspects of the passage or the circumstances under consideration. That there will be, especially at first, much criticism of a very precipitate nature is a matter of the most perfect certainty, but it is equally certain that criticism of this nature will not affect in the slightest degree the ultimate and probably slowly formed estimate of the present revision. What that estimate will finally be, it would be

now utterly premature even to attempt to forecast. Our belief is that in the main it will be favorable, and the belief is founded upon the unquestionable fact that a body of competent scholars has bestowed extraordinary pains, for a lengthened period of time, on the revision alike of the text and the current rendering of the original. It seems contrary to experience that such carefully organized efforts should ultimately fail. It is quite probable that here and there throughout the volume particular renderings will be objected to on reasons that will be ultimately considered valid ; and it is to be hoped that where such should be the case nothing will prevent the revisers from reconsidering their former decisions. This, as we know, took place in the case of the Bishops' Bible in 1568, and may properly take place, if found necessary, in the Convocation-Testament of 1881. What is desired on all hands is, not only a technically correct rendering, but one also that by its diction, rhythm, and loyal adherence, where possible, to the version now in use, should commend itself to the religious judgment of English-speaking people throughout the world."

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The following account of the meeting of Convocation, at the time when the Revised Version of the New Testament was presented to it by the Revisers, will give the reader additional information.

### CONVOCATION OF CANTERBURY.

May 17, 1881.

On Tuesday both Houses of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury met at Westminster for the despatch of business.

### THE UPPER HOUSE.

The Archbishop of Canterbury presided over the Upper House, which met in the Board-room of Queen Anne's Bounty Office. There were present the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop of St. Alban's, the Bishop of Hereford, the Bishop of Exeter, the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Bishop of Truro, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of Ely, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Bishop of Bangor, and the Bishop of Llandaff.



The Archbishop read a message, which he had ordered to be sent to the Lower House, to the effect that his Grace the President desired the attendance of the Prolocutor and such members of the Lower House as could conveniently attend to receive the report on the revision of the Scriptures.

In obedience to this message the Prolocutor (Lord Alwyne Compton) and a very large number of members of the Lower House attended.

The Archbishop, addressing them, said,—

“I have requested the presence of the Prolocutor and such of the members of the Lower House as might wish to take part in this solemnity, as I regard it as a matter of great importance for you to hear now what are the results of the deliberations of the body who for many years have been engaged upon the solemn and onerous task of a revision of the Holy Scriptures in the English tongue. The first report—that upon the New Testament—is to be presented to-day. We have good reason for believing and hoping that at no far distant date we shall have the second report—that upon the Old Testament; but to-day you will have only the first, and I have to call upon the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who is the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Revision, to lay the report before you.”

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol presented the following report:—

“The Joint Committee of the two Houses of Convocation, appointed May 5, 1870, for the revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures, beg leave to report that, with the assistance of the scholars and divines whose co-operation they were authorized to invite, they have completed one portion of their labors,—viz., the New Testament,—and now present the volume containing the same to his Grace in Convocation.”

His Lordship then expressed his deep thankfulness for the mercies vouchsafed to the Committee during the long time in which they had been engaged in the solemn and important task committed to their care; and he expressed also his hope that the blessing of God would further rest upon those labors, and that the Holy Scriptures would more and more be brought to the hearts and homes of every English-speaking people.

The Archbishop, addressing the Lower House, said that he had

thought the occasion should not be allowed to pass without his expressing, on behalf of this Convocation, the deep thanks of both Houses to the Committee who had undertaken and carried out this work. Of course, this work had not yet been examined, and the Houses had yet to examine the revision in detail ; but, nevertheless, the House would be thankful to the Committee for their labors.

The Lower House then retired to their own chamber.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol then rose and said,—

“I have now the honor and responsibility of placing before your lordships a portion of the important work assigned by Convocation eleven years ago to a joint committee of the two Houses of this province. I now lay upon your lordships’ table the revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament as completed by the Company of which I have the honor to be the chairman. In placing before you such a work, so intimately connected with the past, and so closely bound up with the noblest labors of former centuries, it is not possible for me to leave unnoticed in such a speech as the present the various public efforts of which this is the last, that for well-nigh 350 years have had for their object the setting forth, in the tongue wherein we were born, of the holy and inspired words of the written Book of Life. I must therefore ask your lordships to bear with me if I briefly allude to the various stages in the progress of the great work, and especially to the share which this House of Convocation has had in aiding and furthering the labors of the translators and revisers of the past. That share has not been a large one. Convocation, till this last revision, has never taken any prominent part in reference to the successive translations of the Holy Scriptures. Nay, at times, I fear, it has shown itself hostile and reactionary. Still it has its history in reference to the English Bible ; and now to that history, as well as to the other movements that have publicly been made, I will at once very briefly advert. We must look back 350 years. Tyndale’s version of the New Testament had come over to this kingdom, and had been about four years in private but widespread circulation. The souls of men were profoundly stirred, and the desire to have at length the Word of God in our own mother-tongue was vivid and universal. The first public action on the part of the Church was, I grieve to say, to condemn that version which was the bone and sinew of all that have followed

it,—Tyndale's translation of the New Testament. At a Council held at Westminster, under Archbishop Warham, in May, 1530, that version was condemned, but we may be thankful also to remember that it was agreed that the Archbishop should send out a document to be read by all preachers, in which the King's promise that the Scriptures should be translated in English was fully set forth. Four eventful years then passed away. The King's supremacy was acknowledged the next year, and the first steps taken for emancipating this country from the tyranny of Rome. In 1534 the subject of the translation of the Scriptures was renewed, and on the 19th of December in that year this Upper House of Convocation agreed that the Archbishop should, in the name of the members of the House, 'make instance with the King that Holy Scripture should be translated into the vulgar tongue.' Cranmer at once set about the work: he appears to have sent portions of Tyndale's Testament to several bishops for review and revision. The bishops, it would seem, all returned their revisions; but, from some cause or other, it miscarried. The next year (1535) Coverdale's translation, dedicated to the King, stole into this country, and was allowed to circulate, though not formally licensed till 1537. The prayer of Convocation was thus still before the country. It was not directly granted, but it appears to have had this indirect effect, that, not more than three years afterwards, the royal license was given to the second edition of Coverdale's Bible, and to Rogers' or Matthews' Bible, and that two years later, in 1539, the Great Bible was published, of which Coverdale was the sole editor. This was an event of great importance, and may be regarded, in a certain sense, as the practical answer to the prayer of Convocation three years before. Convocation, however, I regret to say, was by no means satisfied with the answer, as very soon afterwards, in February, 1542, it was decided by this House that the Great Bible should be revised according to the Bible then in current use, or, in other words, to the Vulgate. Two committees were appointed. The Old Testament Committee was presided over by the Archbishop of York; the New Testament Committee by the Bishop of Durham. The matter was subsequently referred by the King to the Universities, but in the sequel it happily fell through. A generation then passed away. The Great Bible had meanwhile been revised, though in a very different manner to what the Convocation of 1542 had hoped for and had attempted. It had now

passed, by the process of a revision, performed by several hands, into the Bishops' Bible. The Genevan version had also been published, and was obtaining so wide a circulation that in 1571 Convocation made a special enactment in favor of what it deemed the more orthodox volume—the Bishops' Bible. Every Bishop was to have a copy in his palace. Cathedrals, and, as far as possible, parish churches, were to provide themselves with this last authoritative revision. Somewhere about this time there appears to have been some thought of a movement in Parliament, as an undated paper has been found among the archives of the House of Lords, containing the sketch of a bill for 'reducing diversities of Bibles now extant in the English tongue to one settled vulgar translated from the original.' Another generation then passed away, during the whole of which three versions were in practically competitive circulation—the Great Bible, the Genevan version, and the Bishops' Bible. In Convocation there seems to have been some little reaction in favor of the Great Bible, for in May, 1604, Canon 80 was passed, by which it was provided that every church-warden was to provide for each parish a Bible '*amplissimi voluminis*,' or, as it would certainly seem to imply, the Great Bible of more than sixty years before. But a great and signal change was now very near at hand. In February of the same year (1604) a passing remark of Dr. Reynolds, at the Hampton Court Conference, led the King seriously to take up the subject of a revision of the existing translations, and before the conference broke up it appeared as one of the points desired by the King, and, in fact, carried at his instigation, viz., 'That a translation be made of the whole Bible as consonant as can be to the original Hebrew and Greek.' This was the fundamental resolution, and, as we well know, by the action of the King and some unknown but most competent advisers, learned men were called together, and the great work which we familiarly know by the name of the Authorised Version was set forth to the Church and the world in the year of our Lord 1611. In reference to this version nothing was said or done either in Convocation or Parliament. This revision is to be attributed solely to the King and to the wise and learned men whom he was providentially able to call together for the execution of this great and time-honored work. More than a generation then passed away, during which the Authorised Version was steadily growing in public favor and vindicating year by year its distinct superiority not only over the

Bishops' Bible, but over the popular Genevan Bible. And it was, perhaps, owing to this last fact that we find Dr. Lightfoot urging, in a sermon preached before the House of Commons in August, 1645, the desirableness of a revision of the Scriptures, and apparently with some effect; for, in 1653, a bill was actually introduced for a new revision. Some preparatory steps were taken; but happily the Parliament—the Long Parliament—was dissolved, and the plan entirely fell through. For two hundred years all desire for any further authoritative revision had entirely died out. There were revised portions of Holy Scripture, in this long interval, by individual scholars, but nothing that in any degree helped forward the present movement. At the end of this long period, however, it was plain that the desire for a new revision had revived, and that the subject was beginning to take its place among the leading questions of the day. In the year 1856, which might rightly be characterized as the germinal year of the present movement, Canon Selwyn (ever a true and warm supporter of revision) moved in Convocation, and Mr. Heywood a few months afterwards moved in Parliament, for the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the whole question. The public movements failed; but a private movement made by five clergymen (one of whom is the present speaker, and another my Right Rev. brother the Bishop of Salisbury) in great measure succeeded. The publication in the following year (1857) of a revised version of the Gospel of St. John by these five clergymen was generally admitted to have established these two positions—(1) that a sober and conservative revision of the Holy Scriptures might in due time very hopefully be undertaken; (2) that when undertaken it would be, almost beyond doubt, on the principles which this little company of scholars had gradually and experimentally felt out. The time, however, was not then ripe, though the process of maturation had commenced. So half a generation passed away. Fresh critical subsidies were accumulating; new exegetical works were multiplying; and at last the time was ripe, and the great movement with which Convocation has been so intimately connected began in February, 1870, and shortly after assumed an authoritative and practical form. In that month, as your lordships well remember, the late Bishop of Winchester moved in this House, and the present speaker seconded, a preliminary resolution, which was accepted by both Houses practically unanimously, and acted upon in little more than four months afterwards. An executive

committee was formed ; some forty scholars and divines outside Convocation were invited to take part in the work. Two Companies were formed, the one for the Old Testament and the other for the New Testament, and both at once addressed themselves to their long and responsible work. Soon afterwards two Committees were formed in America, and regular and systematic communication established between the scholars on this side and the other side of the Atlantic. The New Testament Company commenced its labors on June 22, 1870, and closed them on November 11, 1880, and the result of those labors is the volume which I have had the honor and responsibility of placing upon the table of this venerable House. And here I might, not improperly, close this present address ; yet, if I rightly interpret my present duty, and perhaps also the wishes and desires of your lordships, I ought not to do so, on this somewhat memorable occasion, without saying a few words on the manner in which the task committed to us has been done, and also a few words, but only a few words, on the nature and characteristics of the revision. In regard of the manner in which the work of revision was carried on, I may remind your lordships that it was in accordance with rules which had been laid down at the commencement of the work. They were framed with due regard to modern requirements and ancient precedents, being in many respects identical with the rules prescribed for the revisers of 1611, and the rules which appear to have been observed by those who took part in the Bishops' Bible fifty years before. These rules were constantly tested, and I am thankful to say (for I was in some measure responsible for them), proved efficient and sufficient to the end. These rules it may, perhaps, be convenient that I should read to your lordships, as they set forth in a succinct form the course which was to be followed by the Companies in the prosecution of their work :—(1) To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness. (2) To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions. (3) Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided. (4) That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating ; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin. (5) To make or

- retain no change in the text on the second and final revision by each Company except two-thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities. (6) In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting. (7) To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics and punctuation. (8) To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions. Of these rules, one only was found to be superfluous—the rule which prescribes that, if required by one-third of the Company, the voting might be deferred on any difficult and debated question till the following day. The object was to prevent any lingering heat of controversy having any influence on the final decision, and to insure a perfectly calm and, as far as possible, unbiassed decision. The rule, however, was never put in action. By the mercy and blessing of God, no occasion ever arose which made it in any degree necessary. Amid ceaseless differences of opinion and countless divisions, the brotherly feeling and harmony that prevailed among us remained unimpaired to the very end, and rendered all such postponement of the final expression of opinion wholly unnecessary. All the rest of these rules, as our preface will show more fully in detail, were very carefully observed. They were felt by us to present three broad principles, upon which I will venture to make a few observations, as tending to illustrate that on which I now am speaking—the manner in which we have endeavored to execute our work. In the first place, we have felt that what was required of us, not only in the criticism and translation, but in all the details of the revision, was to express a corporate and collective judgment. It is this which distinguishes our work from every other revision that has preceded it. It has been the work of a large body of men sitting together, and arriving at their results after full corporate discussion. This, as we know, was not the case with the Bishops' Bible. Our latest historian of the English versions of the Bible (Dr. Eadie) reminds us not only that there was no consultation among the revisers, but even no final supervision. We have no reason for thinking that it was otherwise with the Genevan Bible, which, though the work of persons dwelling for a time in the same city, does not



present any traces of having been executed or discussed in common. The first edition, indeed, of the New Testament is known to have been the work of a single hand. Even in our Authorised Version the work of revision was carried on, in the case of the New Testament, by two separate companies, that only communicated their results to each other, but never discussed them in common. In the final supervision, which, however, only lasted nine months for the whole Bible, the discussion was probably corporate, but it was only by a small number, and, from the very nature of the case, was probably more of a merely harmonizing nature than a revision in the true sense of the word. In our case it has been utterly different. Revision and supervision have been carried through by the whole Company. Every detail has been submitted to it; every decision has emanated from it; every judgment rests solely upon its authority. The volume now lying upon your lordships' table is the result, in every part and portion, of united and corporate discussion. And if this was our first principle, not less strictly observed was our second principle, viz., to express that corporate judgment with precision and distinctness. I do not think there will be found in the whole volume the faintest trace of a rendering which would adjust itself to one or other of two competing views of the meaning of the original Greek. Our rule was invariably to put in the text the judgment of the majority, and that of the minority in the margin, that majority and minority being of the nature defined by the rules. There is thus nowhere any uncertain sound. Nor is there any ground whatever for supposing, as is sometimes the case in the Authorised Version, that the margin is the more correct rendering, which, for some reason or other, it was not deemed desirable to place in the text. However it may be with the Authorised Version, it is certainly not so with the Revised. The text expresses the rendering or decision of the majority of the Company—that which it deliberately preferred; the margin expresses the view of the minority, and is to be so regarded by the reader. Our third principle was not only to express our corporate judgment with clearness, but to do so only after the fullest and most varied consideration. There is not a hastily arrived at judgment to be found in any page of the Revised Version. No precipitate decision has any place whatever in the results that are now submitted to you. When I mention that the work has actually gone through seven revisions I feel that I am justified in making the statement which I have just

made to your lordships in regard to the decisions arrived at in this volume. Yes, my lords, seven revisions, all more or less thorough and complete. First, the whole of the version committed to the Company was revised by it, and then transmitted to America. It was then reviewed by the American Committee, and returned back again to England. It then underwent, in accordance with the rules, a second revision in England, and was again transmitted to America. After these four revisions it yet underwent a fifth revision in England, mainly with a view of removing any hardness of diction, or of remedying any rhythmical defects which might have been introduced through the various changes which had been imported in the course of this fourfold revision. There was yet a sixth and most important revision in the form of a harmonizing review of the whole, thus far, completed work. A Greek concordance of the New Testament was divided into fourteen parts. Of these, twelve of the members most constant in their attendance each took a part (the chairman taking two), and made themselves individually responsible for a close examination of all the renderings of the words, each in the portion allotted to them. All varieties of rendering were thus brought up before the Company, and wheresoever necessary the judgment of the collective body formally taken upon them. Thus there was a sixth revision. And even, in a certain sense, a seventh; for it so happened that one of the two portions taken by the chairman contained the article and the relative pronouns. This involved on the part of the chairman a careful reading through, line by line, of the whole volume. This reading revealed several inconsistencies in the use of the English relative that had escaped notice, and also disclosed a few slight inconsistencies in other words or expressions which had in some way or other eluded the vigilance of the revisers. When I add to this that throughout all this lengthened process the attendance was most remarkable in regard to numbers and punctuality—the average attendance during the whole ten and a half years being as high as sixteen out of twenty-four—I think I may be justified when I say that the third principle at which we aimed—the expression of opinions only after the fullest and most varied consideration—was thoroughly and faithfully observed. I now pass, in the last place, to a few remarks on the nature and characteristics of the version itself, which is now lying on our table. Much I need not say, as the Preface which is prefixed to the volume really tells this with a fulness and a detail that leave

little to be added on the present occasion. Perhaps, as before, it may be best for me to gather up my remarks into the form of two or three general comments. Permit me, then, to say that these three characteristics will certainly be found on every page of the Revised Version—thoroughness, loyalty to the Authorised Version, and due recognition of the best judgments of antiquity. Our version is certainly thorough—thorough both in regard of the text and the rendering. That thoroughness, as your lordships will remember from the rules which I but recently read to you, was to be regulated by the principle of faithfulness in regard of the translation and a due regard to decidedly preponderating evidence in the case of the Greek text which we regarded as the basis of our rendering. Faithfulness and decidedly preponderating evidence are, of course, both of them expressions which admit of a great variety of interpretations, and in a numerous body like that of the New Testament Company, were certain to receive them. Without troubling your lordships with any enumeration of these varying shades of opinion, it may be sufficient to mention, as the general result, that the revision both of the Greek text and of the Authorised translation has been thorough and up to a full standard of correction. And it would have been a great misfortune if it had been otherwise. A timid revision that had not the nerve to aim at comparative finality, but was simply suggestive of a renewal of the process when the public mind might be judged to be again ready for it, would have had a very unsettling effect, and really would have frustrated the very progress that it contemplated; for such a kind of revision would be used as a standing argument against any revision at all. Moreover, to modify a high standard, in some subsequent review, is a process comparatively easy; but to elevate a lower and tentative standard, in the case of a translation of the New Testament, would be found, if attempted, a work of such peculiar difficulty that it would be very speedily abandoned. No such misfortune has happened to the Revised Version. It represents as full a measure of correction as is required by faithfulness, fairly estimated, but nothing beyond it. The minor changes by which it is marked are certainly numerous, but all have only one common object—the setting forth with greater clearness, force, and freshness the language and teaching of the inspired original. Eleven years ago I alarmed your lordships by the estimate which I then formed of the amount of change that would be needed; and, I remember, I

led my brother of Salisbury to say that my words would frighten people from one end of the land to the other. If the estimate was deemed to be alarming, I fear I may alarm your lordships still more when I state the actual results and compare them with what was then only anticipated. I comfort myself, however, with the thought that when you go to the revision itself these alarms will speedily be dissipated. What I stated as the very lowest estimate was six changes for every five verses, one of these six changes being for critical and textual reasons. What has actually taken place is an average for the Gospels of between eight and nine changes in every five verses—somewhere about one and a half, or three in every ten verses, being for critical changes. As might be expected, the average for the Epistles is still higher. It appears to amount to about fifteen changes for every five verses—one and a half as before being due to critical changes. I have formed this calculation on a rigidly accurate examination of the revised version of the Sermon on the Mount and the General Epistle of St. James, two connected portions of Holy Scripture containing each about the same number of verses. Yet, with all this thoroughness of revision and numerically high standard of correction, the effect to the general hearer or reader will really hardly be perceptible. This is due to the second characteristic of our version, its persistent loyalty to the Authorised translation. To any candid reader nothing will be more patent than this throughout the whole volume. Our words in the Preface will show the great reverence that we have ever felt for that venerable version, and our practice on every page will show how, even when words may have been changed, our reverence has shown itself in such a careful assimilation to the tone and rhythm of that marvellous translation that the actual amount of change will scarcely ever be felt or recognized. Sometimes this has been effected by the choice of a word of the same rhythmic quality as that which is displaced; sometimes by a fortunate inversion; sometimes by the reproduction of a familiar and idiomatic turn; sometimes by the preservation of the cadence even when more than one of the words which had originally helped to make it up had become modified or changed. In a word, our care throughout has been, while faithfully carrying out revision wheresoever it might seem needed, to make the new work and the old so blend together that the venerable aspect of the Authorised Version might never be lost, and its fair proportions never sacrificed to the rigidity of a

merely pedantic accuracy. The third characteristic of the version—due recognition of the best judgments of antiquity—though not equally patent, will, I hope and believe, rarely be looked for in vain. In all more difficult passages we have ever given especial heed to the great early versions, and to the voice, wherever it could be heard in the same language as that which we were translating, of primitive and patristic antiquity. In many of those passages, perhaps, on which hereafter we may be most severely criticised—as, for instance, in the ‘deliver us from the Evil One’ of the Lord’s Prayer—it will be found that we are but reproducing that which had always been the interpretation of the best and earliest writers of the Greek-speaking Primitive Church. We have thus sought to tread the old paths as well as the new, and, while never neglecting modern scholarship, have never reversed old interpretations without such a clear amount of contextual or linguistic authority as rendered such a reversal a matter of distinct and indisputable faithfulness. But, my lords, I must detain you no longer. Such, in general outline, is the Revision which I now have the honor of placing before you. Whatever may be its faults and shortcomings, it has been done faithfully, and it has been done prayerfully. Its pages bear the results of long-continued and arduous labors; but those labors would have been as nothing if they had not been hallowed and quickened by prayer. Such is this revision of 1881; not unworthy, I trust and believe, to take its place among the great English versions of the past; not also without the hope of holding a place among them of honor, and, perhaps, even of pre-eminence. But those things belong to the future. For the present, it is enough that I commend this volume to the favorable consideration of your lordships, and ask for it your fatherly prayers.”

The Archbishop, on behalf of the House, recorded thanks to those members of the Revision Committee who were not appointed by Convocation, and his Grace also expressed his opinion that the House was very fortunate in having had the advantage of the services of a scholar such as the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol to take part on behalf of the House in this revision.

The Bishop of London expressed his hope that the position this Revised Version would take would not be misunderstood. He feared that this position had been misunderstood. The Revised Version had been spoken of as if it would at once take the

place of the Authorised Version. He begged to remind the House that no one could at present use this Revised Version. When the whole work was completed it would go out to the public and would be before the Church for consideration; it might be years before the proposed alterations from the Authorised Version had so approved themselves to the Church—both clergy and laity—that steps could be taken to give authority for the use of the Revised Version. However, it must be understood that the Revised Version could not now be used in the churches. He begged to express the hope that there might not be, for the next two or three years, frequent speaking and discussion by young clergymen, especially by those who most probably could not construe the original, on the proposed alterations set forth. A great deal of patient study ought to precede any attempt at criticism of the proposed alterations, and clergymen—young clergymen especially—who had little knowledge of the original, should be careful not too readily to express an opinion as to the superiority of the one version over the other. The real purpose and value of the revision was that it laid before the Church and the laity alike the opinions of ripe scholars and of the ancient Church, and the result was an exceedingly valuable one, upon which, however, no opinion could be given until after full study and with adequate knowledge. The House would be thankful for the work which, under the blessing of God, had thus been carried out—a work, however, which did not supersede that version of the Scriptures which all English-speaking Christians had learnt to esteem and love.

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#### ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

The first steps towards the formation of an American Committee of Revision were taken almost immediately after the organization of the English Companies. As stated in the "Historical Exposition" (see page 9 above), the first meeting of the New Testament Company in England was held on the 22d of June, 1870. On the 7th of July next following, the two Houses of Convocation voted "to invite the co-operation of some American divines," and to Bishop Wilberforce and Dean Stanley was assigned soon afterwards the duty of holding such communications with America as might be necessary for the accomplishment of the desired result.

As the Rev. Dr. Angus was at that time intending to visit the United States, in connection with a proposed meeting of the Evangelical Alliance in the City of New York, it was deemed expedient to authorize him to open correspondence with the Rev. Dr. Schaff, and some other scholars, while in this country. In this way it was thought that the matter might be most easily explained in its details, and an interchange of views might be held in the most satisfactory way. Accordingly Bishop Ellicott, who had been made chairman of the English New Testament Company, addressed to Dr. Angus in the name of that company, one of the two following letters which might serve to introduce the subject to scholars here, and Dr. Angus himself prepared the other, which was sent to a few of those whose views and co-operation were especially desired.”\*

[Letter of Bishop Ellicott to Rev. Dr. Angus.]

PORTLAND PLACE, London, July 20 [1870].

DEAR DR. ANGUS :

As you do me the favor of asking me, I take the responsibility, as acting chairman of the New Testament Company of the revision body, herewith to commend you as one of our most trusty helpers to the scholars in the United States who may be interested in the undertaking. Perhaps you will kindly explain to them how we work, viz., round a common table, and how it is thus difficult for us to incorporate our brethren across the water. It will, however, be very easy for us to transmit our work in its provisional state to an authorised committee in the United States, and pay all attention to the corrections they may suggest and the observations they may be pleased to offer. We shall be very interested in hearing when you come back how you may have arranged.

Pray give my respectful compliments to any scholars with whom you may confer, and believe me very sincerely,

Yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

[BISHOP ELLICOTT, *Chairman of the N. T. Company.*]

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[\* These and all other letters and documents embodied in this volume, are published with the consent of the British Revisers and the University Presses.]



[Letter of Dr. Angus to American Scholars.—Sent out in August, 1870.]

MY DEAR SIR:

I am not sure whether you have seen the enclosed plan of Bible revision [the rules, etc., of the English Company]. The method adopted of having the work done by each Company together makes it impracticable to ask the co-operation of brethren in America at the initial stage of their proceeding: but there is a strong and general feeling among the revisers that we should get their co-operation to the extent at least of securing their criticisms and suggestions before our revision is finally published. Could you help in such a work by looking over the revision as we prepare it, and giving suggestions? If a committee of a dozen or eighteen were formed in the States, we could send the copy of the revise to each, and they might meet and agree on suggestions. If meetings are impracticable, we might still obtain individual judgments; but the plan of a united judgment has obvious advantages. The expense of such meetings would not be great: and probably it might be met by friends interested in our work. In England the revisers give their time and labor; and we propose to meet the expenses of printing and travelling by an appeal to the English public. Expenses in America might be met in a like way; or we might add these expenses to ours, and meet them all out of a common fund. I had hoped to confer with you on this subject during the N. Y. Alliance meetings. They, however, are postponed, and I must therefore trust largely to correspondence. Bishop Ellicott (our acting chairman) gives me an introduction and asks me to obtain such help as I am now writing about.

Dr. Schaff and Dr. Conant agree to help either individually or in committee. When you have thought the matter over, favor me with a reply addressed to the Alliance Rooms, Bible House, New York.

Yours very sincerely,

JOSEPH ANGUS.

Dr. Angus held communication in person and by letter with Dr. Schaff while in America, the result of which was the selection of certain gentlemen who were fitted for the work, and were likely to be regarded as authorities in Biblical learning by the American public, and the submission of their names to Bishop Ellicott and Dean Stanley as representing the English body. A few months later, Dean Stanley made the first formal communication by letter,

in discharge of the duty assigned to him after the vote of Convocation in July, 1870. On the 13th of January, 1871, he wrote to Dr. Schaff as follows :

DEANERY, WESTMINSTER ABBEY, }  
LONDON, Jan. 13, 1871. }

MY DEAR SIR :

I have been in communication with Dr. Angus on the subject of the revision of the Authorised Version of the Bible, now set on foot by two Companies of English, Scottish, and Irish scholars appointed under the authority of the Committee of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury.

By that Committee, and in pursuance of a vote of the Lower House of Convocation, the Bishop of Winchester and myself were requested to ask the friendly co-operation of some divines from the United States of America in a work that, it was felt, concerned that vast part of the English-speaking races of the world as nearly as ourselves. I find that the Bishop of Winchester has already communicated on the subject with Bishop Potter, with the view of procuring the assistance of such scholars as the Protestant Episcopal Church of America may furnish ; and I, therefore, undertake the charge of addressing myself to you, as having been the centre, as I understand, of the communications of the non-Episcopal churches with Dr. Angus during his recent visit. May I ask you, in consideration of the distance of space and the length of time which would be involved in repeated correspondence with each member, to enter into such negotiations as you may deem advisable with the scholars of these churches ?

It will, of course, be readily understood that the object of the Committee of Convocation and of the revising Companies is to procure the assistance of which I speak purely on the ground of scholastic and Biblical qualifications—the assistance, as the vote of Convocation expressed it, “of any eminent for scholarship, to whatever nation or religious body they may belong.” With this view I have consulted with Dr. Angus and others, and venture to submit a list of such eminent persons as have occurred to us as falling within the above description. You will, perhaps, have no difficulty in arranging with them, and, also (if you think fit) with Bishop Potter, representing the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to whom I have not written, as the Bishop will understand, only because he has already received a communication from my superior in rank, the Bishop of Winchester.

The details of the mode of co-operation will easily suggest themselves: on them I need not at present enter, but will conclude with the hope that the joint and cordial co-operation in this great and holy work may add another link to the friendly intercourse and communion between English Christendom and that powerful and ever-increasing offspring that it has produced beyond the Atlantic.

Yours very faithfully,

A. P. STANLEY.

Bishop Wilberforce had, somewhat earlier, written to Bishop Potter, of New York, asking the co-operation of the divines of the Episcopal Church in this country. But as the General Convention of the Church did not meet until the following autumn, the subject could not be formally brought to the notice of the House of Bishops before that time. Under date of August 7, 1871, Bishop Wilberforce again addressed Bishop Potter in a letter which was submitted by the latter to the House of Bishops, and which is here inserted, together with the minute adopted by the House with regard to the suggestions contained in it.

[Letter of Bishop Wilberforce, of Winchester, to Bishop Potter of New York.]

(Copied from the "Journal and Proceedings of the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church," 1872, pp. 615-616.)

BUSBRIDGE HALL, GODALMING, Aug. 7, 1871.

RIGHT REVEREND BROTHER:

As the time of your General Convention approaches, it seems to me due to my high respect and brotherly affection for your venerable body that I should, as Chairman of the Committee of the Convocation of Canterbury, which is charged with the duty of preparing a revised text of our Authorised Version of the Sacred Scriptures, communicate formally to you what has been done, is doing, and is intended, touching an enterprise which must, I think, deeply interest all the English-speaking branches of the Church of Christ, and, very especially, our beloved sister communion in America. The purpose for which the Committee was appointed was this:—not to make a new translation, but to exhibit, in a revised version of the existing translations, any corrections which either the discovery of new manuscripts and versions or

the advance of scholarship, allowed the Committee to recommend. It was our universal belief that these corrections, though important as to technical accuracy, would affect no doctrine, and add to instead of diminishing the authority of the present version. We felt that there was danger in leaving suspicion free to exaggerate according to her wont, small defects, and swell them to dimensions which might weaken the authority of the existing version. The Committee having been appointed with power to seek *aliunde* the assistance of experts qualified by classical and biblical learning for the task, has formed, out of itself and such associated workmen, two companies : one of which is proceeding with a proposed revision of the Old, and the other of the New Testament. From the first, our Convocation desired the aid of your body, and I have myself made various communications from it to individual members of your Episcopate. The approaching session of your General Convention gives me the opportunity of a more formal communication, which I now make to you as the Presiding Bishop, requesting you to bring the matter, in such a way as you deem meet, before the General Convention. As our work has proceeded, it has appeared impossible for us to obtain from you in the progress of our labors that aid to which we still look forward at their close. When the work of the Companies is finished, it will be the duty of the Committee of the Convocation in its separate unity to revise the work done, and either to reject it, or to lay it, with or without alterations, before the Convocation of Canterbury. That body will then judge for itself of the merit or demerit of what its Committee so presents to it. Should the Convocation judge it so far successful, it would authorise such other steps as it may deem fit. One of these, I have little doubt, would be to submit the tentative revisions to the other English-speaking branches of the Church, and should your Convention encourage our doing so, pre-eminently to you. No such important change as any alteration in the Authorised Version of the Sacred Scriptures could be carried out without allowing full time for all such judgments as that of your branch of the Church to be formed and expressed ; nor until the revised version had received the sanction of general approbation could it, in any sense, be authorised amongst ourselves.

Commending this important matter to your care, and earnestly seeking your prayers for the due fulfilment of the work in hand, through the heavenly assistance of God the Holy Ghost, for the

glory of the eternal and ever-blessed Trinity, and the edification of the Church of Christ, I remain, right reverend and dear brother,

Yours in the bonds of the common faith,

(Signed)

SAMUEL WINTONENSIS.

The RIGHT REV. THE PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE CHURCH IN AMERICA.

[Action of the House of Bishops on the preceding letter.]

(From the "Journal," etc., pp. 262-353.)

A communication from the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester, Chairman of the Committee of the Convocation of Canterbury on the Revision of the Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures, to the Presiding Bishop, was read by the Secretary.

On motion of the Bishop of New York it was

*Resolved*, That this communication be laid on the table, and printed for the use of the House (p. 262).

The Bishop of New York offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Right Rev. the Presiding Bishop be and is hereby requested to return to the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester a courteous and brotherly acknowledgment of his communication relating to a revision of the English of the Holy Scriptures, stating that this House, having had no part in originating or organizing the said work of revision, is not at present in a condition to deliver any judgment respecting it, and at the same time expressing the disposition of this House to consider with candor the work undertaken by the Convocation of Canterbury, whenever it shall have been completed, and its results laid before them.

The Bishop of Louisiana moved to strike out the following words: "Having had no part in originating or organizing the said work of revision"; which was lost.

The question recurring on the original motion of the Bishop of New York, it was adopted (p. 353).

About two months after this action of the House of Bishops, an invitation was sent, at the request of the English Committee, to a number of gentlemen who had already been communicated with respecting the subject, to meet in New York, for the purpose of receiving information as to the work in England, and of forming a Committee of Revision in this country. At this meeting, which

was held on the 7th of December, 1871, the following persons were present :

Prof. Philip Schaff, D.D., New York ; Prof. Henry B. Smith, D.D., New York ; Prof. William Henry Green, D.D., Princeton, N. J. ; Prof. George Emlen Hare, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa. ; Prof. Chas. P. Krauth, D.D., Philadelphia ; Rev. Thos. J. Conant, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y. ; Prof. George E. Day, D.D., New Haven, Conn. ; Ezra Abbot, LL.D., Cambridge, Mass. ; Rev. Edward A. Washburn, D.D., New York.

Dr. Howson, Dean of Chester, was also present by special invitation, and took part in the deliberations.

Ex-President Woolsey, Prof. Hackett, Prof. Strong, and others, were prevented from attending, but expressed by letter their hearty interest in the proposed work, and their readiness to co-operate.

The meeting was organized by the appointment of Prof. Henry B. Smith as Chairman, and Prof. George E. Day as Secretary.

After prayer by the Chairman, Dr. Schaff introduced the subject of the meeting by stating that he had been requested by the British Committee for the Revision of the Authorized English Version of the Scriptures, through the Dean of Westminster, to invite American scholars to co-operate with them in this work. He had accordingly extended such an invitation to a limited number of scholars, most of them professors of biblical learning in theological seminaries of the leading Protestant denominations. In the delicate task of selection, he had reference, first of all, to the reputation and occupation of the gentlemen as biblical scholars ; next to their denominational connection and standing so far as to have a fair representation of the American churches ; and lastly, to local convenience, in order to secure regular attendance on the meetings. He would have gladly invited others, but thought it best to leave the responsibility of enlargement to the Committee itself when properly constituted. He had personally conferred during the last summer with Bishop Ellicott, Dean Stanley, Prof. Lightfoot, Prof. Westcott, Dr. Angus, and other British revisers, about the details of the proposed plan of co-operation, and was happy to state that it met their cordial approval.

Dr. Schaff also read a list of scholars who had been invited to engage in the work and who had accepted the invitation.

A public meeting in the interests of the work of Revision was also held on the evening of the same day in Calvary Episcopal

Church, in New York, which was very largely attended by clergymen and intelligent laymen. It was conducted by the Rector, Rev. Dr. Washburn, and addresses were made by Dean Howson, of England, and Dr. Schaff.

It was hoped, at this time, that the work of the American Committee might be begun at a very early day. But it was incidental to so great an undertaking, which was to continue for years, that many preliminary arrangements should be made. Some provision was needed for the necessary expenses of the work, and it was desirable to secure the co-operation of various bodies of Christians.

As the authorities of the Established Church in the Convocation of Canterbury had originated the whole plan and undertaking in England, and learned men of other Christian bodies in Great Britain had been admitted to the Revision Companies by their invitation, it was very naturally desired by the English Revisers that some of the Episcopal Bishops in this country should become members of the American Committee, before the actual work here should begin. It was believed that their participation in the Revision would facilitate co-operation with the English Committee, and would give satisfaction to the members of the Anglican communion in England. When the House of Bishops, therefore, formally declined to take the part proposed to them in their corporate capacity, considerable disappointment was felt by the English Committee. The resolution adopted by the House, however, was not intended to be binding with reference to individual Bishops. They were understood to be left free to act in accordance with their own judgment. Correspondence was, therefore, opened very soon with several of the more eminent among them, and invitations were extended to them to become members of the American Committee. This correspondence, together with the necessary interchange of communications with England, occupied a few months, thus delaying the organization of the Committee until after the middle of the year 1872. Three or four of the Bishops felt themselves constrained by the action taken at the time of the General Convention to decline the invitations personally addressed to them, or for other reasons of a more private character found it impossible to undertake the work. All, however, expressed an interest in the proposed Revision, and stated that their grounds for declining to have an active part in it were others than those which could be connected with any disapproval

of the plan, or want of sympathy with the body which originated it.\* Bishop Lee, of Delaware, then the oldest but one of

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[\* Bishop McIlvaine, D.D., LL.D., to Dr. Schaff.]

CINCINNATI, May 20, 1871.

REV. AND DEAR SIR :

I have just returned home after a week's absence, having received in the hour of departure your obliging communication on the subject of revision of the Scripture version.

I am glad that as the revision in England was set on foot by a Convocation of the Church of England, and is proceeding mainly under such guidance and control, in constituting an American Committee to co-operate, the work of formation has been given by the British Committee to a *non-Episcopalian*, and to *you*. This will greatly help not only the all-sidedness of the work, but in case it shall be desirable to introduce it into substitution for the present version will very materially prepare the way for such result.

I am much indebted to you for the kind estimate you evince of my revisionary qualifications, in doing me so great an honor as to ask me to be on the American Committee. But I am sure you have over-estimated my ability. The sort of life a Bishop must have led, who for almost forty years has superintended this large diocese, is not favorable to the sharpness and fulness of that sort of learning and that habit of mind which such revision demands. But there is a reason for my asking you to excuse me which admits of no question. The state of *brain-health* is such that I can undertake nothing that would require close investigation, and especially critical study. It seems to have become so established that, during the few years, at the very longest, that I may be continued here, I can expect nothing but, by great caution and quietness, to be enabled to do my moderate and untasking work. I shall carefully mind your word "*confidential*."

Yours very respectfully,

CHAS. P. McILVAINE.

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[Bishop Williams, D.D., LL.D., to Dr. Schaff.]

MIDDLETOWN, Feb. 26, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

In some correspondence with the Bishop of Winchester I have respectfully declined to take even the very humble part I could take in the now pending revision of the Bible.

Let me assure you it is from no feeling that a revision is not needed, nor yet from any unwillingness to invoke aid in making it from others than members of the Church of England that I have been led to this view of my duty. Quite other grounds than those are the ones I stand on, though I need not trouble you with any details as to their character,

With great respect truly yours,

J. WILLIAMS.

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[Bishop Whittingham, D.D., LL.D., to Dr. Schaff.]

BALTIMORE, Feb. 24, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I have already, some time ago, declined an invitation from the Bishop of Winchester (late of Oxford) to take part in the revision of the Authorized Version



the American Bishops (now the Senior Bishop), and held in esteem as one of the best qualified among them for the special work devolved upon the Committee, accepted the invitation and joined the New Testament Company in May, 1872. Soon after this the final arrangements were consummated by Rev. Dr. Schaff, who visited Europe in the summer of 1872, and on his return in the autumn the Committee, being duly organized, began its work. The delay occasioned by the various causes, which have been referred to as incidental to the formation of such a body, and by the necessity of communication and co-operation between the representatives of the two Committees on opposite sides of the ocean, caused the American Companies to be nearly two years later than the English in beginning their duties. They pressed forward their work with much energy, however, and were enabled to complete it contemporaneously with their English brethren.

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The first meeting of the American Committee, when its organization was completed, was held at the Bible House in New York on the 4th of October, 1872. The following record and letters will give the reader the account of this meeting and organization.

[Circular Letter of Dr. Schaff to the American Revisers.]

NEW YORK, Sept. 13, 1872.

DEAR SIR:

I have the honor to inform you that, during a recent visit to England, I have succeeded in completing the arrangements for co-operation with the British Committee on Bible Revision, and that confidential copies of the revised version of several books of the Old and New Testaments have been forwarded to me for the use of the members of the American Committee.

You are therefore requested to attend a meeting of the American revisers to be held on Friday, Oct. 4, 1872, at 2 P.M., in my study in the Bible House, for the purpose of completing the

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now carrying on by the Convocation of Canterbury, for reasons made known to him—not arising out of any hostility on my part to the revision itself.

Of course, I am unable to accept the gratifying and courteous invitation which you now extend to me.

I am glad of the opportunity thus afforded me of saying how much pleasure I have in any approach to the renewal of well-remembered profitable intercourse enjoyed in former days, and how truly I am

Your faithful and affectionate friend and brother,

W. R. WHITTINGHAM.

organization and commencing actual work. It is especially important that this meeting should be fully attended.

Respectfully yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

REV. DR. WOOLSEY, AND OTHERS.

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### MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE,

OCTOBER 4, 1872.

#### *The Organization Completed.*

[From the Minutes of the American Committee.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 4, 1872.

The American Committee on the Revision of the English Authorized Version of the Bible met this day, at 2 P.M., at the study of Dr. Schaff, No. 40 Bible House, to complete their organization and make arrangements for the work before them.

Present: Drs. DeWitt, Green, Hare, Strong, Lee, Woolsey, Abbot, Kendrick, Thayer, Schaff, and Day.

Rev. Dr. Woolsey was appointed temporary Chairman. After prayer by Bishop Lee, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Prof. Charles Short and Prof. James Hadley were unanimously elected, and took their seats as members of the Committee.

Letters, or messages, were received from Profs. Krauth, Lewis, Smith, Hackett, Warren, and Riddle, expressing their regret at not being able to be present, with the assurance of their continued readiness to co-operate.

Printed copies of the revision by the British Companies, so far as completed, viz., in the O. T. of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus; in the N. T. of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, were then distributed to the members of the American Companies, with the express understanding that they should be regarded and kept as strictly confidential.

After a brief statement by Dr. Schaff in regard to the present state of the work of revision in Great Britain, and the desire of the British Committee to come into immediate connection with the American Committee, the following officers were appointed by ballot:

Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, *President.*

Prof. George E. Day, *Secretary.*

Prof. Charles Short, *Treasurer.*

It was then *voted* :

1. That the two Companies hold their meetings in New York.
2. That the officers of the Committee be authorized to secure the room No. 42 in the Bible House for one year or less, and to purchase the necessary furniture.

3. That Professors Short, Day, and Green be a Committee to report upon the means of obtaining the necessary funds for the prosecution of the work of the Committee.

The two Companies then separated for the purpose of organization. On meeting again, the O. T. Company reported that they had made choice of Prof. William Henry Green as Chairman ; and Prof. George E. Day, Secretary. The N. T. Company reported that they had elected Rev. Dr. Woolsey, Chairman ; and Prof. Charles Short, Secretary.\*

The Committee then adjourned to meet at No. 40 Bible House on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 9 A.M.

GEORGE E. DAY,  
*Secretary.*

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[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Ellicott.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 12, 1872.

MY LORD :

I have the honor to inform you that the American Committee of revisers is now fully organized, and has entered upon its work.

A meeting of the revisers was held in my study on the 4th of October. Bishop Lee opened the meeting with prayer. Most of the members were present ; the rest sent letters asking to be excused for unavoidable absence, but expressing deep interest in the work, and their readiness to co-operate.

I distributed among the members present copies of the revised version of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus, and of the Gospels of St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. Luke, which were intrusted to me by the British Committee for the exclusive use of the American Committee. The confidential character of these documents will be sacredly respected.

The organization was then completed by the unanimous election of the undersigned as President ; of Prof. George E. Day,

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[\* Afterwards Prof. Thayer was also elected Secretary of the N. T. Company and relieved Prof. Short of a part of the work, which became very laborious as the revision proceeded.]

D.D., of Yale College, New Haven, as Corresponding Secretary ; and of Prof. Charles Short, LL.D., of Columbia College, New York, as Treasurer.

The Company for the revision of the Old Testament elected Prof. W. Henry Green, D.D., of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, its Chairman, and Prof. Day, Recording Secretary. The officers of the New Testament Company are the Rev. Ex-President Theodore D. Woolsey, D.D., LL.D., of New Haven, Chairman, and Prof. Charles Short, Recording Secretary.

Both Companies agreed to hold periodical meetings every month. The next meeting will begin November 2. We have rented and furnished a room in the Bible House, and shall soon take measures to provide for the necessary expenses.

As President of the whole Committee it is my duty according to Art. III. of our constitution to conduct the official correspondence with the British revisers.

It is in discharge of this duty that I write this letter.

I look forward with great pleasure to a continuance of the correspondence with our brethren in England.

I may add that our recent meeting was a very harmonious one, and gives good promise of earnest and vigorous co-operation with the British Committee. We apprehend no material difference, and feel confident that so noble and holy a work, which engages the united labors and prayers of Christian scholars from all branches of Anglo-Saxon Christendom, will be crowned with the blessing of the Divine Author of the Scriptures.

I assure you and the members of the Company you represent of my profound regard and best wishes and prayers for the success of your work.

Truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL,  
Chairman of the New Test. Company of Revision.

[Bishop Ellicott to Dr. Schaff.]

GLOUCESTER, Nov. 21, 1872.

DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I am requested by the New Testament Company to thank you for your kind note and to express their sincere pleasure at hearing so excellent an account of your progress.

The Company present their kind compliments and best wishes to the distinguished scholars over whom you preside.

Very faithfully yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

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The List of the American Committee as finally constituted, and including both those who participated in the organization of the body and others who were added to the membership by election at some of the earliest meetings, may be appropriately inserted at this point. The membership was necessarily limited to scholars whose residence was not so remote from the City of New York as to make their attendance at the monthly meetings of the Committee impossible.

#### GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., LL.D., President.

GEORGE E. DAY, D.D., Secretary.

##### (1) *Old Testament Company:*

Professor WM. HENRY GREEN, D.D., LL. D. (Chairman), Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

Professor GEORGE E. DAY, D.D. (Secretary), Divinity School of Yale College, New Haven, Conn.

Professor CHARLES A. AIKEN, D.D., Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

The Rev. TALBOT W. CHAMBERS, D.D., Collegiate Reformed Dutch Church, New York.

Professor THOMAS J. CONANT, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Professor JOHN DEWITT, D.D., Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, N. J.

Professor GEORGE EMLEN HARE, D.D., LL.D., Divinity School, Philadelphia.

Professor CHARLES P. KRAUTH, D.D., LL.D, Vice-Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Professor TAYLER LEWIS, LL.D., Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.

Professor CHARLES M. MEAD, PH.D., Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass.

Professor HOWARD OSGOOD, D.D., Theological Seminary, Rochester, N. Y.

Professor JOSEPH PACKARD, D.D., Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Va.

Professor CALVIN E. STOWE, D.D., Hartford, Conn.

Professor JAMES STRONG, S. T. D., Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J.

Professor C. A. VAN DYCK, D.D., M.D., Beirut, Syria (Advisory Member on questions of Arabic).\*

NOTE.—The American Old Testament Company lost by death Prof. TAYLER LEWIS, d. 1877; Dr. KRAUTH, Philadelphia, d. Jan. 2, 1883; and Dr. STOWE, by resignation.

(2) *New Testament Company.*

Ex-President THEODORE D. WOOLSEY, D.D., LL.D., (Chairman), New Haven, Conn.

Professor J. HENRY THAYER, D.D. (Secretary), Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass.

Professor EZRA ABBOT, D.D., LL.D., Divinity School, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

The Rev. JONATHAN K. BURR, D.D., Trenton, N. J.

President THOMAS CHASE, LL.D., Haverford College, Pa.

Chancellor HOWARD CROSBY, D.D., LL.D., New York.

Professor TIMOTHY DWIGHT, D.D., Divinity School of Yale College, New Haven, Conn.

Professor JAMES HADLEY, LL.D., Yale College, New Haven, Conn.

Professor HORATIO B. HACKETT, D.D., LL.D., Theological Seminary, Rochester, N. Y.

Professor CHARLES HODGE, D.D., LL.D., Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

Professor A. C. KENDRICK, D.D., LL.D., University of Rochester, N. Y.

The Right Rev. ALFRED LEE, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Delaware.

Professor MATTHEW B. RIDDLE, D.D., Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn.

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\* Dr. Van Dyck has rendered important aid to the Old Testament Company, both in his correspondence with them, and by the preparation of a full list of the variations, in the renderings of the recent Arabic translation of the Book of Job, from the renderings of the Authorized English Version.

Professor PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., LL.D., Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Professor CHARLES SHORT, LL.D. (Secretary), Columbia College, New York.

Professor HENRY BOYNTON SMITH, D.D., LL.D., Union Theological Seminary, New York.

The Rév. EDWARD A. WASHBURN, D.D., LL.D., Rector of Calvary Church, New York.

NOTE.—The American New Testament Company lost by death Prof. JAMES HADLEY (who attended the first session), d. 1872 ; Dr. HENRY BOYNTON SMITH (who attended one session, and resigned from ill health), d. 1877 ; Dr. HORATIO B. HACKETT, d. 1876 ; Dr. CHARLES HODGE (who never attended the meetings, but corresponded with the Committee), d. 1878 ; Rev. Dr. WASHBURN, d. Feb. 2, 1881 (after the completion of the N. T. Revision) ; Rev. Dr. BURR, d. April 24, 1882, and Prof. EZRA ABBOT, d. March 20, 1884. Dr. G. R. CROOKS and Dr. W. F. WARREN, who accepted the original appointment, found it impossible to attend any meetings and resigned.

It is an interesting fact connected with the work of Revision in America, that only one of those who were actively engaged in the Revision of the Version of the New Testament—Professor Hackett—died before it was completed. Professors Henry B. Smith and Charles Hodge attended no meetings after the actual work began, and thus had only a nominal connection with the Company, while Professor James Hadley was present only at the first meeting, his death having occurred in November, 1872. Of the Old Testament Company Dr. Krauth is the only active member who has died—Professor Tayler Lewis, who died in 1877, having been unable to participate in any of the meetings. It is also interesting to note the fact that the few members who were not in the Committee at its first organization were elected by the body almost immediately afterwards, so that all those who brought the work to its completion had a part in all its stages from the beginning. The Revision, so far as it is the work of the American Committee, is, thus, the result of the joint labors of an almost unbroken company during a period of eight years in the New Testament part of it, and twelve years in the Old Testament part.

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The rules under which the English Companies carried on the work were as follows :

## PRINCIPLES AND RULES OF THE BRITISH COMMITTEE.

At the first meeting of the Committee, appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury, May 6, 1870, in accordance with the sub-joined Report,\* accepted by Convocation at its last session, the following resolutions and rules were agreed to as the fundamental principles on which the revision is to be conducted :

### RESOLVED,—

I. That the Committee appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury at its last Session separate itself into two Companies, the one for the revision of the Authorised Version of the Old Testament, the other for the revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament.

II. That the Company for the revision of the Authorised Version of the Old Testament consist of the Bishops of St. David's, Llandaff, Ely, Lincoln, and Bath and Wells, and of the following members from the Lower House: Archdeacon Rose, Canon Selwyn, Dr. Jebb, and Dr. Kay.

III. That the Company for the revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament consist of the Bishops of Winchester, Gloucester and Bristol, and Salisbury, and of the following members from the Lower House: the Prolocutor, the Deans of Canterbury and Westminster, and Canon Blakesley.

IV. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the Old Testament Company be the revision of the Authorised Version of the Pentateuch.

V. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the

\*“1. That it is desirable that a revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures be undertaken.”

“2. That the revision be so conducted as to comprise both marginal renderings and such emendations as it may be found necessary to insert in the text of the Authorised Version.”

“3. That in the above resolutions we do not contemplate any new translation of the Bible, or any alteration of the language, except where, in the judgment of the most competent scholars, such change is necessary.”

“4. That in such necessary changes, the style of the language employed in the existing version be closely followed.”

“5. That it is desirable that Convocation should nominate a body of its own members to undertake the work of revision, who shall be at liberty to invite the co-operation of any eminent for scholarship, to whatever nation or religious body they may belong.”



New Testament Company be the revision of the Authorised Version of the Synoptical Gospels.

VI. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the Old Testament Company :—

ALEXANDER, Dr. W. L.	GINSBURG, Dr.	PLUMPTRE, Professor
CHENERY, Professor	GOTCH, Dr.	PUSEY, Canon
COOK, Canon	HARRISON, Archdeacon	WRIGHT, Dr. (British Museum)
DAVIDSON, Professor A. B.	LEATHES, Professor	WRIGHT, W. A. (Cambridge)
DAVIES, Dr. B.	M'GILL, Professor	
FAIRBAIRN, Professor	PAYNE SMITH, Canon	
FIELD, Rev. F.	PEROWNE, Prof. J. H.	

VII. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the New Testament Company :—

ANGUS, Dr.	LEE, Archdeacon	SCOTT, Dr. (Balliol Coll.)
BROWN, Dr. DAVID	LIGHTFOOT, Dr.	SCRIVENER, Rev. F. H. A.
DUBLIN, Archbishop of	MILLIGAN, Professor	ST. ANDREWS, Bp. of
EADIE, Dr.	MOULTON, Professor	TREGELLES, Dr.
HORT, Rev. F. J. A.	NEWMAN, Dr. J. H.	VAUGHAN, Dr.
HUMPHRY, Rev. W. G.	NEWTH, Professor	WESTCOTT, Canon
KENNEDY, Canon	ROBERTS, Dr. A.	
	SMITH, Rev. G. VANCE	

VIII. That the general principles to be followed by both Companies be as follows :

1. To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness.
2. To limit as far as possible the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions.
3. Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.
4. That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.
5. To make or retain no change in the text on the second final revision by each Company, except *two-thirds* of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.
6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.

7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.
8. To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions.

IX. That the work of each Company be communicated to the other as it is completed, in order that there may be as little deviation from uniformity in language as possible.

X. That the special or by-rules for each Company be as follows :

1. To make all corrections in writing previous to the meeting.
2. To place all the corrections due to textual considerations on the left-hand margin, and all other corrections on the right-hand margin.
3. To transmit to the chairman, in case of being unable to attend, the corrections proposed in the portion agreed upon for consideration.

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The rules of the American Committee included those adopted in England in all essential points, and were set forth in the following Constitution :

" I. The American Committee, invited by the British Committee, engaged in the revision of the Authorized English Version of the Holy Scriptures, to co-operate with them, shall be composed of biblical scholars and divines in the United States.

" II. This Committee shall have the power to elect its officers, to add to its number, and to fill its own vacancies.

" III. The officers shall consist of a President, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President shall conduct the official correspondence with the British revisers. The Secretary shall conduct the home correspondence.

" IV. New members of the Committee and corresponding members must be nominated at a previous meeting, and elected unanimously by ballot.

" V. The American Committee shall co-operate with the British Companies on the basis of the principles and rules of revision adopted by the British Committee.

" VI. The American Committee shall consist of two Companies,

the one for the revision of the Authorized Version of the Old Testament, the other for the revision of the Authorized Version of the New Testament.

"VII. Each Company shall elect its own Chairman and Recording Secretary.

"VIII. The British Companies will submit to the American Companies, from time to time, such portions of their work as have passed the first revision, and the American Companies will transmit their criticisms and suggestions to the British Companies before the second revision.

"IX. A joint meeting of the American and British Companies shall be held, if possible, in London, before final action.

"X. The American Committee shall pay their own expenses."

The meetings of the two American Companies were held every month, from September to May inclusive, in each year, at rooms No. 42 and 44 Bible House, New York. A summer meeting was held in the month of July at some place designated by the Companies,—usually at New Haven, Andover or Princeton. The summer meetings continued for a week; the other meetings for two days. The members sat around a common table, and freely and fully discussed such passages or chapters as had been previously assigned for the particular meeting—each member having already examined and investigated them for himself. In this way the whole of the New Testament, and of the Old, was minutely considered and discussed. The work was reviewed in this careful manner twice from beginning to end. In the first revision, changes in the Authorized Version were recorded for further consideration in case they were favored by a majority of votes; but, in the second revision, the rule demanded a vote of two-thirds in order to adopt the proposed change. Finally, all passages were examined a third time in which unreconciled differences still remained between the views of the English and American Companies. The thoroughness and patience with which the work was done will be manifest to the reader from this brief statement. It may safely be said that no criticism has been made on the New Testament portion of the work already published, which was not anticipated, and accorded a fair and full discussion by the Revisers in the progress of the work. The same will, doubtless, prove to have been the case with respect to the Old Testament, which is issued simultaneously with this Historical Statement.

The membership of the two Companies included scholars of the principal Protestant denominations. The opportunity was thus given for a fair and able presentation of the views of each, so far as such views have a bearing upon the matter of the translation of words and sentences. Controversy, however, never arose in the meetings on points dividing religious bodies. The spirit of scholarship rose far above the sectarian spirit, and the latter was at no time manifest. It is a satisfaction to all the revisers in the retrospect, to know that there was, from the beginning to the close of their labors, a constant and delightful exhibition of Christian unity. This fact, which it is pleasant to remember, may also, it is believed, bear with itself a testimony to the general accuracy of their work.

The relations between the Committees of Revision in the two countries involved some questions of importance which called for extended correspondence, but were finally settled by an agreement between the two parties which met the approval of both. At an early period in the history of the work, an arrangement had been made between the English Companies and the officers connected with the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge, by which the Revised Version in Great Britain became the property of those institutions, on condition that the large expenses incidental to the preparation of the work in that country should be paid by them. The copyright, in Great Britain, accordingly, passed into their control. It was at no time desired by the American Committee to have any such arrangement made between themselves and publishers in the United States, or in any way to put a restriction on the sale of the new book, for the purpose of securing any remuneration for their own services or any benefit for themselves whatever. No copyright was thought of or wished for in this country with any such end in view. At one time, however, the subject of securing a copyright here for the sole purpose of preventing the publication of inaccurate and imperfect editions, was considered and discussed. This led to a series of communications with the managers of the University Presses, and also to some inquiries addressed to legal authorities in the United States. The feeling, however, on the part of the members of the American Committee was so general and so permanent, that the book should be made a free gift to the public, with no limitation whatever in the way of its widest circulation, that the whole matter was laid aside by common consent. Diffi-

culties might, not improbably, have arisen in the case of a work having such a character—the authorship being in the persons of citizens of two different countries. The correspondence also incidentally developed the fact that no satisfactory arrangements could be made with the Presses, had there been a desire to accomplish that end. The determination of the American gentlemen was that they would not receive pecuniary benefit from their work, or even, in any way, seem to do so ; and, after due consideration, it was thought that the danger of the appearance of undesirable editions was not sufficient to lead them to reverse or turn aside from their settled purpose. As some standard edition, however, was necessary, the American Committee agreed to make a public statement, that the one issued by the University Presses was the one for whose accuracy they would hold themselves responsible.

As the American Committee was organized later than the one in England, and only in accordance with a vote of Convocation “to invite their co-operation,” it was natural that questions should arise as to the precise relation of the American body to the English—whether they were to hold the place of advisers merely, or of fellow-revisers with their English brethren. The difficulties connected with the deciding of questions by the votes of two different bodies of men three thousand miles apart; the apparent necessity that the final determination should be made in one place and by those who could confer with one another; the reasonable claim to a certain priority on the part of the English Companies by reason of the fact that the work was originated in their country; and the equally appropriate feeling that the representatives of our nation should have a recognized participation in the work to which they devoted, as fully as did the scholars in England, years of labor,—all these points, together with others closely related to them, were made the subject of communication and, as far as possible, of conference. Several plans were suggested by which the ends desired by the two parties might be attained. One or two of them, after some consideration, found favor for a time with both Committees, but, as unforeseen objections arose, they were afterwards abandoned. The one most worthy of mention was a plan by which certain members of each Committee should be elected into the membership of the other, and should have the right of voting by letter. This arrangement, however, seemed

cumbersome, and likely to be attended by delay and other difficulties in its practical operation. It was also exposed to some objections connected with the relations of the English Committee to the Presses which had a certain control of their work. In view of these points it was rejected, and, indeed, was never altogether approved as a feasible and desirable one by either party.

The attitude of the English Committee towards the suggestions of the American Revisers was always that of readiness to give them most respectful consideration. In July, 1873, when the question of the relations of the two bodies was first brought under consideration, both the Old and New Testament Companies in England declared that they were "glad to have the opportunity of repeating the assurance that they will give the most careful consideration," and "will attach great weight and importance to all the suggestions of the American Committee." Two years later the same assurance was repeated, the two Companies again declaring that they "will continue to give the greatest possible weight to every suggestion of the American Committee and will also endeavor, whether by conference or otherwise, to arrive at an agreement upon any points of importance as to which the English Companies and the American Committee may not be fully agreed." Soon afterwards, and in connection with an able presentation of the case in London by Rev. Dr. Schaff, the plan of electing two members of each body into the other, which has been already alluded to, was proposed and adopted by both of the English Companies, and subsequently accepted by the American Committee. The difficulties in the way of making the plan effective, and certain complications connected with the transference of the pecuniary rights in the work from the Revisers in England to the Universities having, however, led to its abandonment, further negotiations were held with the Syndics and Delegates of the two Presses and the Revision Companies. These negotiations led to the result which was embodied in the following provisions :

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#### MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.

(DRAFT SUBMITTED BY THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES, AUG. 3. 1877.)

As a preliminary it seems desirable to state, that the primary object of the American Committee and the two English Companies is assumed to be, To obtain one and the same revision

of the present English Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures.

For this end the following arrangement is proposed:

1. The English Companies will continue to send their first and provisional version to the American Committee from time to time for their observations thereon.

2. Such observations will be taken (as before) into careful consideration by the English Companies in connection with their second revision. The English Companies will then communicate to the American Committee the results of their second revision.

3. The English Companies will give reasonable time for the American Committee to return their remarks on any points that they may think important in these last communications; and, although the English Companies are precluded by the terms of their Constitution from undertaking a third revision, they will nevertheless take such remarks of the American Committee into special consideration before the conclusion of their labors.

4. If any differences shall still remain, the American Committee will yield its preferences for the sake of harmony; provided that such differences of reading and rendering as the American Committee may represent to the English Companies to be of special importance, be distinctly stated either in the Preface to the Revised Version, or in an Appendix to the volume, during a term of fourteen years from the date of publication, unless the American Churches shall sooner pronounce a deliberate opinion upon the Revised Version with the view of its being taken for public use.

5. The English Companies will communicate to the American Committee copies of their revision in its final form before it is given to the public.

6. All communications between the American Committee and the two English Companies relating to the work of revision to be regarded (as heretofore) as made in the strictest confidence.

7. The American Committee will in no case interfere with the interests of the two University Presses in the Revised Version as finally settled.

They will do what lies in their power to promote the freest cir-

culatation of the editions of the University Presses in the United States, not only by abstaining from issuing any editions of their own, but by recognizing the editions of the University Presses as the authorized editions, and in all proper ways favoring such issues and discouraging irresponsible issues, for the period of fourteen years.

8. If the Revised Version be adopted by the American Churches, it shall, after such term of fourteen years, become public property in the United States, as the Authorized Version is now.

NOTE.—By the term "American Churches" is understood all religious bodies in the United States which use the present Authorized Version in their public services.

This arrangement, which was proposed in August, 1877, was accepted by the American Committee a month later—the following resolution having at that time been passed :

(From the Minutes of the American Committee, Sept. 28, 1877.)

*Resolved*, That the American Bible Revision Committee hereby accept and ratify the agreement contained in the Memorial from Dr. Cartmell accompanying his letter of 3d of August, 1877, with the understanding in regard to Article 8th that the American Committee assume no responsibility in regard to the action of the American Churches, or in regard to any term beyond the period of fourteen years.

In consequence of this action, and as carrying out what was understood by both parties to be intended by the 8th Article of the agreement, the American Committee caused the statement which follows to be signed by their President and Secretary, and given to the American press before the publication of the Revised Version of the New Testament.

"The American Committee of Bible Revision hereby announce to the American public that only those editions of the New Revision, including marginal renderings, which are published or approved by the University Presses of England will be recognized by us as the authorized editions."

The agreement thus finally made between the two bodies of Revisers secured some important results. It led to the utmost effort, consistent with due regard for honest convictions, to reach an en-



tirely harmonious conclusion in all cases. It prevented all possibility of a twofold Revision ; and, in case the Authorized Version should be given up and the new work preferred, it continued to the churches of both nations one and the same English translation of the Scriptures. It guarded the public from irresponsible and imperfect editions, with all their errors, by establishing a single standard with which all must be compared, and to which all that would hope for success must conform. It freed the book from all restrictions from copyright in this country, and made it a gift to the people. A large proportion of the suggestions of the American Committee were adopted and embodied in the Revised Version. Many others, which were not adopted in their exact words, were inserted in a modified form which satisfactorily expressed the American views. A considerable number of those which were not thus incorporated in the text of the book were not deemed by the American Revisers of sufficient importance to render it necessary to insist upon them. In cases, however, where such importance was strongly felt by the American Committee, they were, in accordance with the agreement, distinctly recorded in an Appendix, which the English Revisers and the University Presses obligated themselves to publish in all their editions. The reader of the Revised Version will discover in the Appendix only a very small part of the results of the work of the American Committee. These results are found everywhere throughout the entire book.

It may be proper here to remark, that the heading of the American Appendix to the Revised Version of the New Testament, which was prepared by the Committee and forwarded with it to England, was as follows :

The American N. T. Revision Company, having in many cases yielded their preference for certain readings and renderings, present the following instances in which they differ from the English Company, as in their view of sufficient importance to be appended to the revision, in accordance with an understanding between the Companies.

This form sets forth more precisely the character of the Appendix, and the design in confining it within narrow limits, than the one which was substituted for it, and which appears in the New Testament as published.

The work of the American New Testament Company continued until the autumn of 1880 ; that of the Old Testament Company till the close of the year 1884. The whole Bible, after these twelve years of labor, appears in its Revised English Version, at this time, before the people of Great Britain and America. This Revised Version is now a fact in history. Those who have labored in the preparation of it have carefully and conscientiously examined and re-examined every verse and sentence and word. They now commit it to the English-speaking world. That it will meet unfavorable criticism—sometimes severe, sometimes thoughtless, sometimes from the conservative, and sometimes from the progressive side—as a part of it has already met such criticism, they do not doubt. But they entrust it to the future, knowing that the book will live, while the critics will die, and wishing only that their labors may contribute, in this generation and the coming ones, to make the Scriptures clearer in their true meaning to all men of the English race.

Whatever may be the final result of their work, the members of the Committee will find an abundant reward for the years spent upon it in the memory of their common studies and their long-continued and friendly association.

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The Committee desire to record, in this review of their labors, their acknowledgment of the great service rendered to the cause of Revision by their President, Dr. Philip Schaff. His untiring energy and constant devotion to the interests of the work, from its inception to its close, deserve the thanks of all who have co-operated in any way in the preparation of the Revised Version, and also of all who shall find in it help and light in their reading of the Word of God. It was owing to him, more than to any other, that the work was undertaken in this country, and to him likewise is largely due the success with which the means for carrying it forward have been secured.

## MEMORIAL PAPERS.

It is believed that those who have aided in the work of the Committee, and all friends of the Revision, will be interested in the following commemorative papers respecting some of those who were engaged in the work, but were removed by death, either before the completion of the New Testament portion of it, or before the publication of the entire Revised Version. They have accordingly been inserted in this volume at this place, between the Record of the work itself and the account of the generous aid furnished by many benevolent friends, who enabled the Committee to carry it forward.



## MEMORIAL PAPERS.

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### DR. HACKETT.

[From the Minutes, Nov. 26, 1875, p. 89.]

A committee consisting of Drs. Kendrick, Woolsey and Abbot was appointed to draft a minute commemorative of our associate, Dr. Hackett, deceased since our last meeting. They prepared the following paper, which was ordered to be placed on our records and a copy to be given to the press for publication:—

“With profound regret this Committee have to record the death, since their last session, of the Rev. Dr. Horatio Balch Hackett, one of our country’s most eminent biblical scholars and a loved and honored member of this board of revision. Dr. Hackett was born in Salisbury, Mass., December 27, 1808. Having been graduated with high honor from Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary, he served for four years, first as adjunct Professor of the Latin and Greek Languages and Literature in Brown University, afterwards for many years as Professor of Biblical Literature in Newton Theological Institution, and during the last six years as Professor of New Testament Exegesis in the Rochester Theological Seminary. In all these positions his varied duties were discharged with eminent ability.

“As a biblical scholar he rose rapidly to take rank with the ablest scholars in our own and other lands. As a teacher he was no less distinguished. Uniting exact learning and vigorous method with a devout reverence for the sacred Word, and an intense enthusiasm that kindled into life even the driest grammatical details, he made his lecture-room, to all who frequented it, a place of unwonted quickening and inspiration. As an author, his various contributions to sacred literature have been exceedingly valuable. His Commentary on the Acts is regarded abroad as well as at home as of standard excellence; and his enlarged edition (undertaken in conjunction with Dr. Ezra Abbot) of Smith’s Dictionary of the Bible, to the English edition of which he was a contributor, has greatly enhanced the value of that excellent work, and won for him the lasting gratitude of students of the Scriptures.

“Dr. Hackett came to feel deeply the need of improving our excellent standard version of the Bible. For several years he lent

his valuable services to the American Bible Union, and when the American Board of Revisers was organized to co-operate with the English Revision Committee, he entered heartily into the work as a member of the New Testament section of our body. Though his increasingly delicate health forbade his uniform attendance at the meetings, yet his presence was always warmly greeted by his colleagues in revision, and to his opinions, expressed with invariable modesty, was accorded the weight due to ripe learning and an admirably balanced judgment.

"In his personal character he was no less estimable. Retiring as he was in disposition and living in scholarly seclusion, few knew how deep and warm were his affections, and how tender his sympathies; how refined were his tastes and how varied his culture; how wide was his outlook, and how just were his judgments of public affairs; how fervid was his patriotism, and how humble and unaffected was his piety; in short, what a wealth of noble and Christian qualities lay hidden beneath that quiet exterior. In all his relations as a man, a teacher, a scholar, and a Christian he commanded at once love and veneration, and his later pupils were wont to trace in his gentle and chastened enthusiasm a resemblance to the 'Beloved Disciple' whose writings he so genially expounded. Nobly has he accomplished his earthly work, and in the higher sphere to which death has translated him, he is enjoying, we doubt not, the fruits of a life of faithful consecration to the service of the Church and the Church's Lord. With heartfelt gratitude to Him who has given to the Church the blessing of such a life we place on record this imperfect tribute to his high scholarly and personal excellence."

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Committee be requested to transmit to the family of Dr. Hackett a copy of the above minute, with the assurance of our tender sympathy with them in their sore bereavement, and our prayer that the Heavenly Comforter may impart to them His abundant consolations.

GEORGE E. DAY, *Sec.*

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### PROFESSOR TAYLER LEWIS.

[From the Minutes, Jan. 25, 1878, pp. 132, 134.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Jan. 25, 1878.

The following paper respecting the life and services of the late Prof. Tayler Lewis was adopted unanimously. It was also voted

that it be recorded in the minutes and published in the religious newspapers :

"The death of so distinguished a scholar as Dr. Lewis calls for a passing tribute from his brethren of the American Bible Revision Committee. While his physical infirmities limited his co-operation in our work to the occasional communication of written suggestions, these were always highly prized, and his interest in the progress and success of the work was by many signs known to be deep and genuine. It was a source of much regret to the Old Testament Company that they could not enjoy more frequently and abundantly the results of his prolonged and profound biblical and philological studies.

"From the profession of the law, which he had entered, Dr. Lewis early turned to the more congenial work of a scholar, teacher, and man of letters. For more than forty years he was by profession a teacher, and was nearly the whole of this period connected first with the University of New York and later with Union College. His special department was that of the Greek language and literature ; and after disabling infirmities cut him off from the ordinary work of the recitation room, his own genius and enthusiasm continued to inspire class after class in the lecture room, and in his parlors, with something of his own admiration for Greek literature and philosophy. His studies in Hebrew and the cognate languages began early and were prosecuted with characteristic energy and with rich results. His well-worn Hebrew Bible bears witness, through his memoranda, to the frequency with which he had many years ago re-read it in course. And he left behind him numerous and carefully elaborated comments on many of its difficult passages. The Committee cannot withhold the expression of the wish that these notes, or a judicious selection from them, may yet be published, in addition to the biblical studies which he had given to the public during his life. Dr. Lewis was no recluse. In philosophical, political and theological discussion he was deeply interested, and with unusual versatility and power took ready part in such debates. He was not merely a loyal and valiant, but an aggressive, champion of what he held to be the truth. Especially were all his energies and resources ready for the most prompt and vigorous use in maintaining the supremacy of the Word of God over all human thinking and living. With him has passed away one who in the variety and extent of his resources and attainments has reflected honor upon

American scholarship, and whose memory will be cherished by all who appreciate his faithful labors for Christ."

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### DR. NATHAN BISHOP.

[From the Minutes, Sept. 25, 1880, p. 148.]

The following paper, prepared by Dr. Schaff, commemorative of the late Hon. Nathan Bishop, LL.D., was adopted :

"The American Revision Committee record with profound sorrow the death of Dr. Nathan Bishop, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, who was called to his reward August 7, 1880, at Saratoga, aged seventy-two years.

"We share in the universal esteem for his pure and consistently Christian character, his amiable and catholic spirit, his sound judgment, his generous liberality in promoting every good cause. He was a man who delighted in doing good without ostentation, from principle and from pure love to his Lord and his fellow-men. He took a deep and intelligent interest in the revision movement from the start, and never doubted for a moment its final success. He was the most liberal and cheerful contributor toward the expenses of our Committee, and considered it an honor and privilege to promote a cause so sacred and important to all readers of the Word of God. His name is identified with the labors of this Committee, and his memory will be cherished by all who personally knew him.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of this minute be sent to the widow of Dr. Bishop."

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### DR. WASHBURN.

[From the Minutes, Oct. 28, 1881, p. 163.]

The following memorial paper, prepared by Bishop Lee, on the death of Rev. Dr. Washburn, was read and adopted, and the Secretary was directed to send a copy of the same to his widow, and also to the public press :

"Since the conclusion of the labors of the New Testament Company, it has pleased Almighty God to take out of this world one of their number, the Reverend Edward A. Washburn, D.D., Rector of Calvary Church, in the City of New York.

"It is the desire of those associated so long with him in this



important work to place upon their records an expression of their high estimate of the character of their lamented fellow-laborer, and of their affectionate regard for his memory.

"Dr. Washburn was a man whose marked ability and noble qualities commanded universal respect, while his ready sympathy and kindliness endeared him to a large circle of friends. He was a scholar, assiduous and well trained, whose powerful mind readily grasped and fed upon knowledge, both secular and sacred. As a faithful pastor and an instructive, forcible preacher, he stood in the foremost rank. In the pursuit of truth he was honest and earnest, and in the avowal of his convictions fearless and outspoken. In his whole intercourse he was remarkably transparent, open and genuine—a man to be admired, trusted and loved.

"In the present revision of the English Bible his interest was enlisted from the beginning. He took an early and decided stand as its advocate, and the first public meeting in this country in behalf of the undertaking was held in his church. Disease, against which he manfully struggled through a large part of his life, drove him to a foreign land in search of health soon after the labors of the Committee commenced, and after his return the same cause often interrupted his attendance at our meetings. It has been a source of great regret to his associates that they lost so much of the advantage that would have accrued from his more frequent co-operation. But when he could be with us his presence was gladly welcomed, and his suggestions highly valued. Upon his connection with this work we look back with satisfaction and gratitude. He was not permitted to hail the public appearance of the volume to which he had given so much time and thought, but its saving truths were dear to his heart, and we cannot doubt through divine grace were instrumental in preparing him for the event which came so unexpectedly.

"Removed in the fulness of his ripened powers and in the height of his usefulness, his end might seem to us premature, but we bow in submission to His will who doeth all things well."

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#### DR. BURR.

[From the Minutes, Oct. 26, 1882, pp. 175-177.]

The following tribute to the memory of the Rev. Jonathan Kelsey Burr, D.D., of the New Testament Company, deceased

since our last meeting, presented by Dr. Strong, was unanimously adopted, and directed to be placed upon our minutes, with the request to Dr. Strong to communicate the same to the surviving members of Dr. Burr's family :

" The Rev. Jonathan Kelsey Burr, D.D., a member of the New Testament Company of the American Bible Revision Committee, who died April 24, 1882, was born in Middletown, Conn., September 21, 1825, and graduated from the Wesleyan University in 1845, and in 1846 was a student in the Union Theological Seminary. With the exception of the last two years of his life, when he was gradually failing with consumption, he spent the intermediate years in the active ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, occupying several of the most important pulpits within the bounds of the New Jersey and the Newark Conferences. As a preacher and pastor he held a high rank in his denomination, and was universally respected and beloved for his scholarly attainments, his uniform urbanity, and his diligent habits. He was the friend of the rich and the poor alike, and was equally welcome and at home in the elegant mansion and in the humblest dwelling. He was a man of extensive reading, of refined taste, and of thorough culture, as well as of deep but undemonstrative piety. Modesty combined with activity was a marked feature of his character, and his conduct in every relation of life evinced a genuine heartiness and an earnest sobriety which were the result of much self-discipline, a just estimate of his own powers and duties, and a manly integrity of purpose. His literary qualification for the position which he filled among us with so much ability, credit and acceptableness, was also shown in a very excellent series of annotations on the book of Job, and in occasional contributions to the religious journals. His estimable widow has since deceased, and two promising sons are thus left entire orphans. We record this memorial in token of our appreciation of his character and services, and our sympathy with his surviving friends."

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#### DR. KRAUTH.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Old Testament Company of the American Bible Revision Committee held in the Bible House, New York, February 23d, 1883, the following tribute to the memory of our late associate, the Rev. Dr. Charles P. Krauth, Vice-Provost

of the University of Pennsylvania, prepared by the Rev. Dr. Chambers, was adopted and directed to be presented to the whole Committee at their next annual meeting in order to be placed upon their records.

GEORGE E. DAY, Secretary.

CHARLES PORTERFIELD KRAUTH, D.D., LL. D.

Born March 17th, 1823, in Martinsburg, Va.

Died January 2d, 1883, in Philadelphia, Pa.

His paternal grandfather came to this country from Germany in the latter part of the last century, and was teacher and organist in one of the Reformed churches. His father, Charles Philip Krauth (1797-1867), was successively pastor of Lutheran churches in Martinsburg and Philadelphia, President of Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, and Professor in the Theological Seminary at the same place. Our friend and associate was his oldest son, and consequently enjoyed great advantages in his early training. He was graduated in 1839 from the college of which his father was president, and immediately commenced theological studies under Drs. Schmucker and Schmidt. Having concluded these with high honor, he was ordained in 1842, and became pastor of a church in Baltimore. Subsequently he held the same office in Winchester, Va., and in Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1859 he was called to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, and two years afterward became editor of the *Lutheran and Missionary*, through which he made himself widely felt throughout the religious press. In 1864 he was appointed Professor of Theology and Church History in the new Seminary then established in Philadelphia. In 1868 he was elected to the chair of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy in the University of Pennsylvania, and five years afterward was made Vice-Provost of the institution. In the discharge of the duties of these various offices, together with occasional preaching of the Word, he continued until his death, constantly growing in influence and usefulness as time developed his rare qualities in guiding and stimulating the young men under his charge. But his earthly tabernacle proved frailer than one would have supposed from his commanding presence. He sought to gain relief from growing infirmities by a visit to Europe in the year 1880, but the improvement was superficial and short-lived, and on the 2d day of this year, after an illness of a fortnight, he quietly fell asleep in Jesus.

Our friend did not round out the usual measure of man's days,

but he performed enough work to satisfy the most exacting demand. His course, whether in the pulpit, or the editorial room, or the professorial chair, was one of incessant activity. His published writings are numerous. They consist not only of such elaborate volumes as the *Conservative Reformation and its Theology*, the translation of Tholuck's *Commentary on the Gospel of John*, the enlargement of Fleming's *Vocabulary of Philosophy*, a new edition of Berkeley's *Philosophical Writings*, but also of various minor treatises touching questions in Theology and Church History, by which he exerted a vast influence in his own denomination. His mind, strong and versatile by nature, was assiduously cultivated from early youth. His studies were confined mainly to theology in its various branches, to philosophy and literature in its wide acceptance. He had accumulated a very large private library (14,000 volumes) which was a selection as well as a collection. He was, consequently, unusually well informed on all matters relating to his chosen sphere, being a careful as well as a constant reader. This fact made him a formidable antagonist in any question respecting the history of opinion.

In his theological views he was a Lutheran of the Lutherans, being a zealous defender and maintainer of the *Augustana*, pure and simple, and he headed the reaction which has been going on for a generation in our country against the influences which were thought to assail the integrity or the authority of the venerable Confession of Augsburg. But while he strove with all his might for the preservation of Lutheran doctrine and order, he cherished a catholic spirit, and took a cordial interest in the prosperity of all evangelical Christians. He became a member of this body at its commencement, and although hindered, sometimes by professional engagements, at others by the state of his health, from being as regular in attendance as was desirable, his presence was always an advantage, and his large acquaintance with the early English versions of the Scriptures, and with the best idioms of our tongue, made his suggestions often of very great value in the settlement of a disputed issue. In personal intercourse he was one of the most delightful of companions, genial, courteous, full of resources, sparkling with wit and anecdote, yet always preserving the elevated tone of a Christian gentleman. It would have been gratifying if he had been spared to witness the termination of our labors, and rejoice with us in a successful result. But the Lord saw fit to order events otherwise, and we bow in

submission to His holy will, taking a melancholy pleasure in putting on record this testimonial to our departed brother. His death is a great loss not only to the important religious body of which he was a shining ornament, but also to the whole Church of Christ in this land, and to the republic of letters. Our country has produced few men who united in their own persons so many of the excellences which distinguish the scholar, the theologian, the exegete, the debater, and the leader of his brethren, as did our accomplished associate. His learning did not smother his genius, nor did his philosophical attainments impair the simplicity of his faith. All gifts and all acquisitions were sedulously made subservient to the Gospel of Christ. He illustrated his teachings by his life, and has left behind him a memory precious and fragrant not only to his own large communion but to multitudes beyond its pale.

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EZRA ABBOT, D.D., LL.D.

Born in Jackson, Maine, April 28, 1819.

Died in Cambridge, Mass., March 21, 1884.

*"The grass withereth, and the flower falleth; but the word of the Lord abideth forever."*

In the death of Professor Abbot the New Testament Revision Company are summoned a third time, since the completion of their work, to mourn the departure of one of their number. With their associates of the Old Testament Company they would reverently bow to the Divine appointment, and thoughtfully take to heart its admonitions.

The secluded life of Dr. Abbot, and his singularly modest and retiring disposition, rendered him almost, if not quite, a stranger to every one of us till we entered on our work together in these rooms. In general deliberations respecting matters of business, and particularly in those discussions, alike animated and delicate, which involved our relations to the English Revisers and the University Presses, his voice was heard but seldom. Yet whenever he spoke, his characteristic clearness of apprehension, his accurate and complete recollection of facts, his judicial impartiality and dispassionateness, and above all his personal willingness to become anything or nothing, if so be the Word of God in

its purity might have the freer course, seldom failed to become manifest.

His sphere of conspicuous service, however, was the Revision work. Always one of the first in his place at the table, and one of the last to quit it, he brought with him thither the results of careful preparation. His suggestions were seldom the promptings of the moment. Hence they always commanded consideration; often secured instant adoption. Well versed in the resources of our ancestral tongue, gifted with an ear for its rhythm, and trained to a nice discrimination in his use of it, he rendered appreciable service in securing for the new translation certain felicities of expression to which its critics, amid their clamorous censure of its defects, have hitherto failed to render due recognition. But it was in questions affecting the Greek text that Dr. Abbot's exceptional gifts and attainments were pre-eminently helpful. Several of his essays on debated passages, appended to the printed reports of our proceedings which were forwarded from time to time to the brethren in England, are among the most thorough discussions of the sort which are extant, won immediate respect for American scholarship in this department, and had no small influence in determining that form of the sacred text which will ultimately, we believe, find acceptance with all Christian scholars.

To his distinction as a scholar, Dr. Abbot added rare excellence as a Christian. Such chastened sweetness of disposition, such disciplined regard for the sensibilities of his associates, such studied generosity in debate, such patient deference when overruled, such magnanimous equanimity in victory as were habitual with him, were never surpassed among us. Differing from the rest of us as he did in some of his theological tenets, his Christ-like temper rendered him a brother beloved, and lends a heavenly lustre to his memory.

We, his survivors, desire to place on record our affectionate tribute to his worth, and to offer to his bereaved kindred a tender expression of our sympathy.

REVISION ROOMS, 42 AND 44 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK,  
FRIDAY, April 25, 1884.

The above minute, presented by Dr. Thayer, was unanimously adopted by the Committee.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND LIST OF DONORS AND SUBSCRIBERS.

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### ORGANIZATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE Revision of the English Scriptures for public use was undertaken as a labor of love, without any prospect of reward except the consciousness of doing a good work for the benefit of English-speaking Christendom. But no enterprise of such magnitude, embracing so many workers and extending through nearly fourteen years, can be accomplished without considerable expense for traveling, printing, clerical aid, books, room-rent and incidentals. The expenses of the English Committee, to the extent of \$100,000 and more, were assumed at an early stage by the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge in consideration of the exclusive right of publication within her Majesty's dominions. The expenses of the American Committee were raised in our usual American fashion by voluntary contributions. No aid was ever asked or offered from any foreign quarter.

For four years the contributions were solicited by the President and a few members of the Committee, Professor Short acting as Treasurer. A report was made from time to time to contributors in parlor meetings. Some kind lay friends volunteered to relieve the Committee of this additional burden; and in May, 1875, a Committee of Finance in co-operation with the Revision Committee was organized.

All the necessary funds for the Revision work have been raised, first by soliciting donations, and afterward in the more convenient way of offering to contributors of \$10 each a presentation copy of the Memorial volume of the New Testament. The responses enabled the Committee to return to the subscribers what may be regarded as a full equivalent for their contribution. The Memorial volumes were ordered from the University Presses and delivered free of charge. They are gotten up in the very best style of printing and binding, and have given universal satisfaction. The Memorial copies will increase in value as they grow older and rarer.

The success of this plan induced the Finance Committee to offer by a circular, dated January 8, 1883, a Memorial Copy of the Revised Old Testament, bound in levant morocco, to every contributor of \$20 toward meeting the expenses for the completion of the work. In the autumn of 1884 another circular was issued, informing contributors that it had been determined to bind the Memorial copies of the Old Testament in four volumes, and that the Committee could offer the four-volume copy at \$80, or the two-volume copy at \$25, and that those who had hitherto contributed \$20, in consideration of which they were entitled to a two-volume copy, could increase the contribution to \$30 for the other copy, if that was preferred. The answer to the circulars was prompt and liberal. The result is thought to be sufficient for the further expenses. If there should be a balance

left in the treasury, it will be devoted to some benevolent object connected with Bible Revision or Bible distribution.

The gentlemen who first constituted the Finance Committee, or who afterward became connected with it, are :

Nathan Bishop, LL.D., New York. (D. 1880.)  
 Rev. William Adams, D.D., New York. (D. 1880.)  
 Rev. Thos. D. Anderson, D.D., New York. (D. 1881.)  
 Mr. A. S. Barnes, New York.  
 Mr. M. C. D. Borden, New York.  
 Mr. Alexander Brown, Philadelphia.  
 Mr. Jas. M. Brown, New York.  
 Mr. Wm. A. Cauldwell, New York.  
 Mr. Wm. E. Dodge, New York. (D. 1888.)  
 Rev. H. Dyer, D.D., New York.  
 Mr. John Elliott, New York.  
 Judge E. L. Fancher, LL.D., New York.  
 Prof. Wm. Gammell, LL.D., Providence, R. I.  
 Mr. John C. Havemeyer, New York.  
 Mr. Morris K. Jesup, New York.  
 Mr. Francis T. King, Baltimore, Md.  
 Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter, D.D., New York.  
 Mr. Howard Potter, New York.  
 Mr. S. B. Schieffelin, New York.  
 Mr. Elliott F. Shepard, New York.  
 Mr. John Sloane, New York.  
 Mr. Roswell Smith, New York. (Resigned 1881.)  
 Rev. R. S. Storrs, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Mr. Andrew L. Taylor, New York.  
 Mr. Chas. Tracy, New York. (D. 1885.)  
 Mr. John B. Trevor, New York.  
 Mr. Alexander Van Rensselaer, New York. (D. 1878.)  
 Mr. Samuel D. Warren, Boston, Mass.  
 Mr. Norman White, New York. (D. 1883.)  
 Mr. F. S. Winston, New York. (D. 1885.)

The officers of the Finance Committee have been :

Nathan Bishop, LL.D., Chairman (died, 1880).  
 Judge E. L. Fancher, LL.D., Chairman (since 1880).  
 Andrew L. Taylor, Treasurer.

The Treasurer reports the total amount of contributions (including remission of duties and other items) from the beginning of the work in 1873 to May 11, 1888, as \$44,761.60.

The expenses during the same period for traveling, for clerk hire, for office expenses, for printing, and for books have been \$35,225.66, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$9,535.94 on May 11, 1888, on which date the account was examined and certified to by the Auditing Committee.

The supplemental statement of the Treasurer from May 11, 1888, to January 29, 1889, shows total receipts to that date \$47,561.48, and total payments \$38,469.67, and a balance in the treasury of \$9,091.79.



The balance in hand will be used for the further expenses of the Committee, for the publication of a Documentary History, and for the purchase of Memorial copies of the Revised Old Testament.

The following resolution, passed unanimously by the Revision Committee, finds an appropriate place at this point :

[From the Minutes, Jan. 27, 1881, p. 160.]

*Resolved*, That the American Bible Revision Committee recognize and acknowledge the efficient and cordial co-operation which has been given to their work by the gratuitous services of Mr. Andrew L. Taylor, and hereby record their thanks for the financial furtherance of their labors due to his ready activity as their Treasurer.

This acknowledgment was unanimously adopted.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY  
OR IN CONNECTION WITH  
THE AMERICAN REVISION COMMITTEE.

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THE REVISION OF THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE  
NEW TESTAMENT,

BY

J. B. LIGHTFOOT, D.D.,  
CANON OF ST. PAUL'S,  
AND HULSEAN PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY, CAMBRIDGE;  
RICHARD CHEVENIX TRENCH, D.D.,  
ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN;

C. J. ELLICOTT, D.D.,  
BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.,  
PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY IN THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW YORK.

NEW YORK:  
HARPER & BROS.

1878.

The *Introduction* was published separately by order of the Committee (3d ed. 1875), and distributed among the patrons of the Revision as a sort of programme.

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ANGLO-AMERICAN BIBLE REVISION,

BY

MEMBERS OF THE  
AMERICAN REVISION COMMITTEE.

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION.

NEW YORK:  
NOS. 42 & 44 BIBLE HOUSE.

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION, PHILADELPHIA.

1879.

This book has gone through several editions and was twice reprinted in London by James Nisbet & Co., and the London Sunday-School Union, 56 Old Bailey.

The following is a list of articles :

List of English Revisers.

List of American Revisers.

Anglo-American Revision.

Introductory Statement. PHILIP SCHAFF.

The Authorized Version and English Versions on which it is based.

CHAS. P. KRAUTH.

The English Bible as a Classic. T. W. CHAMBERS.

Reasons for a New Revision. THEODORE D. WOOLSEY.

The Current Version and Present Needs. G. EMLEN HARR.  
 The Hebrew Text of the Old Testament. HOWARD OSGOOD.  
 Hebrew Philology and Biblical Science. W. HENRY GREEN.  
 Helps for Translating the Hebrew Scriptures at the Time the Ancient Version  
 was Made. GEORGE E. DAY.

Inaccuracies of the Authorized Version of the Old Testament.

JOSEPH PACKARD.

The New Testament Text. EZRA ABBOT.

Inaccuracies of the Authorized Version in respect of Grammar and Exegesis.

A. C. KENDRICK.

True Conservatism in Respect to Changes in the English and Greek Text.

TIMOTHY DWIGHT.

The Greek Verb in the New Testament. MATTHEW B. RIDDLE.

Unwarranted Verbal Differences and Agreements in the English Version.

J. HENRY THAYER.

Archaisms; or, Obsolete and Unusual Words and Phrases in the English  
 Bible. HOWARD CROSBY.

The Proper Names of the Bible. CHARLES A. AIKEN.

The Use of Italics in the Bible. THOMAS CHASE.

Paragraphs, Chapters, and Verses in the Bible. JAMES STRONG.

Revision of the Scriptures and Church Authority. ALFRED LEE.

General Index. }

Index of Texts. }

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## THE NEW REVISION AND ITS STUDY,

JOHN D. WATTLES.

PHILADELPHIA :

1881.

### CONTENTS.

The Gospels in the New Revision. By Professor EZRA ABBOT, D.D., LL.D.

The Acts in the New Revision. By Professor M. B. RIDDLE, D.D.

The Pauline Epistles in the New Revision. By Professor TIMOTHY DWIGHT, D.D.

The Epistle to the Hebrews in the New Revision. By Professor J. HENRY  
 THAYER, D.D.

The Catholic Epistles in the New Revision. By Professor A. C. KENDRICK, D.D.,  
 LL.D.

The Revelation in the New Testament. By Chancellor HOWARD CROSBY, D.D.,  
 LL.D.

---

## PRAISE-SONGS OF ISRAEL.

A NEW RENDERING OF THE BOOK OF PSALMS,

BY

JOHN DE WITT, D.D.

OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN OLD TESTAMENT REVISION COMPANY.

NEW YORK :

RICHARD BRINKERHOFF.

1884.

Dedicated to the American Revision Committee.

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74 BOOKS PUBLISHED BY AMERICAN REVISION COMMITTEE.

A COMPANION TO THE GREEK TESTAMENT AND  
THE ENGLISH VERSION,

BY

PHILIP SCHAFF,

PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON REVISION.

WITH FAC-SIMILE ILLUSTRATIONS OF MSS. AND STANDARD EDITIONS OF THE NEW  
TESTAMENT.

HARPER & BROS.

NEW YORK

MACMILLAN & CO., LONDON.

1888.

2D EDITION, REVISED, 1885.

Dedicated to the American Revision Committee.

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A COMPANION TO THE REVISED OLD TESTAMENT,

SHOWING THE LEADING CHANGES MADE AND THE REASONS FOR MAKING THEM,

BY

TALBOT W. CHAMBERS, D.D.

A MEMBER OF THE OLD TESTAMENT REVISION COMPANY.

NEW YORK:

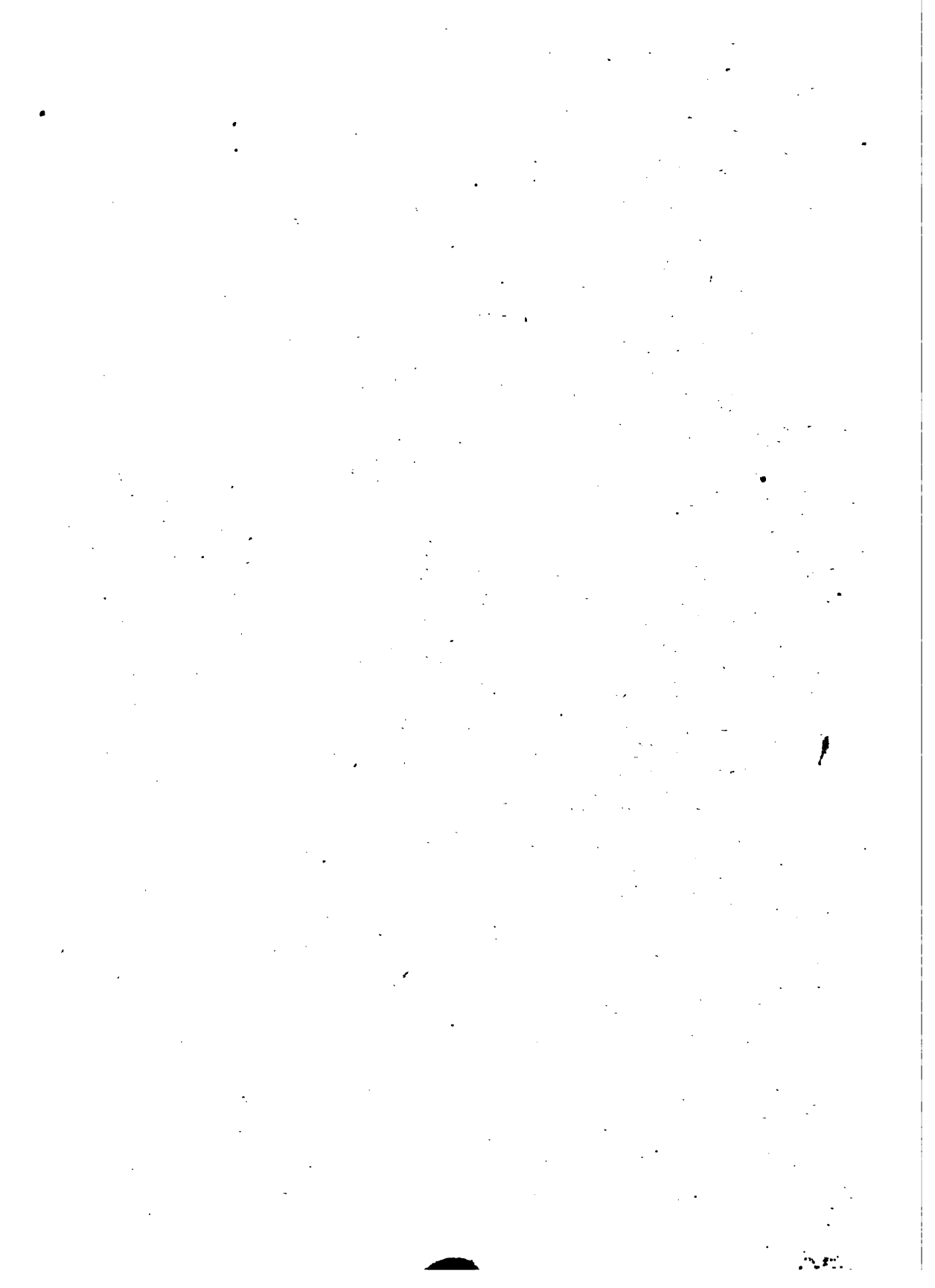
FUNK & WAGNALLS.

1885.











PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY  
OF THE  
AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON REVISION.

PREPARED BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE  
FOR THE USE OF THE MEMBERS.

NEW YORK.

1885.

1885. Oct. 9,

Gift of

to the Philip Smith  
of New York.

American Bible Revision Committee,  
NEW YORK.

42 BIBLE HOUSE.

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 1885

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Dear Sir:

I beg leave to send you,  
for safe-keeping in your library,  
two documents relating to the Bible  
Revision work now happily completed.

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I. A Documentary History of the  
work of the American Committee on  
Bible Revision.

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This collection was prepared, and  
one hundred copies printed by ~~the~~  
order, and for the private use, of  
the two Companies, but was not  
published. It contains all the  
documents and official letters  
necessary to make a connected  
history of American co-operation,  
and will furnish important ma-  
terial for a future complete history.

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II. An Historical Account of the work



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## **Introductory.**





# HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

## ENGLISH COMMITTEE ON REVISION.

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[We present, by way of introduction, the following "*Authoritative Exposition of the History and Purpose of Revision*," which appeared in the London "*Times*" (weekly edition), May 20, 1881.]

### THE REVISION OF THE AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.\*

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ON a December day, 346 years ago, the members of the Upper House of the Convocation of Canterbury were engaged on the same subject which will this day come before that ancient body—the faithful rendering of the Holy Scriptures into the vulgar tongue. They then unanimously agreed that the King should vouchsafe to decree that the Scriptures should be translated “by some honest and learned men to be nominated by the King, and to be delivered to the people according to their learning.” As we know, no immediate results followed this very laudable resolution. The King, however, two years afterwards, made a proclamation in which, while he stoutly forbade the public reading of the Scriptures in English, he did, nevertheless, graciously allow “such as can and will read in the English tongue” to do so “quietly and reverently,” and “by themselves secretly, at all times and places convenient for their own instruction.” The Archbishop, too, appears to have done his best. Cranmer is said to have sent portions of Tyndale’s Testament to several bishops to be reviewed and considered, and it is said that all returned their revisions. But there the matter ended. The subject, indeed, was revived in 1542, but in a reactionary spirit, and in the sequel with an equally unproductive result.

The Convocation of Canterbury of our own day have, however, been more fortunate. They have not only suggested that a faithful

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\* “The New Testament of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,” translated out of the Greek ; being the Version set forth A.D. 1611, compared with ancient authorities, and revised A.D. 1881. Printed for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Oxford: 1881.

rendering of the Scriptures should be undertaken, but, by means of members of their own body and co-optated scholars and divines, they have completed one portion of the work, and to-day will publicly receive it. The Revised Version of the New Testament will be presented this morning to both Houses of Convocation.

Before we make any comments on the work itself we may, perhaps not unprofitably, give our readers some general account of the origin of this really great undertaking, and briefly specify the manner in which the work has been done. Our columns for the last eleven years have contained short notices of the meetings that have been held by the Companies, and of the silent progress of the work. We may now give the history of that progress, and also mention the various circumstances connected with the early history of that portion of the work that has now been completed.

To find the true origin of this undertaking we must look back about twenty-five years. The year 1856 was marked by several distinct movements in favor of a revision of the Authorised Version, and by one particularly, on which, as a sort of first step in the now completed work, it may be desirable to speak a little in detail. The subject was alluded to both in Convocation and in Parliament. On February 1, 1856, the late Canon Selwyn, who had long been deeply interested in the subject, gave notice in the Southern Convocation of a resolution in which Convocation was to pray the Sovereign to appoint a Royal Commission for receiving and suggesting amendments in the Authorised Version of the Bible. The same course was recommended in Parliament by Mr. Heywood, one of the members for North Lancashire; but in both cases the result was the same. Neither the clerical nor the lay mind was prepared for such a leap in the dark as the appointment of a commission to modify the venerable version that has so long maintained its supremacy. Sir George Grey more blandly, and Archdeacon Denison more trenchantly, disposed of the Royal Commission, and, as far as any public action went, no steps were taken, though there were few probably, either in Convocation or Parliament, who did not feel that the subject could not long be postponed.

Private effort, however, was much more successful. The Rev. Ernest Hawkins, then secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, was so deeply impressed with the importance of making some organized effort that he determined to try and gather together a small body of scholars that should undertake the revision of a portion of the New Testament, and that should show by actual results not only that the work needed to be done, but that it could be done, and that, too, on safe and conservative principles. After many

efforts he succeeded in gaining the support and co-operation of a few scholars who were known, either by their works or by general reputation, to be interested in the study of the New Testament. He drew together, in the summer of 1856, the Rev. Henry Alford, afterwards Dean of Canterbury; Rev. John Barrow, D.D., Principal of St. Edmund Hall; Rev. C. J. Ellicott, now Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol; Rev. W. H. [G.] Humphry, Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; and Rev. G. Moberly, D.C.L., then Head-Master of Winchester College and now Bishop of Salisbury. These five scholars agreed to make an attempt by the revision of the Authorised Version of St. John's Gospel. They began their work in the autumn, meeting regularly at the vicarage of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, with their gentle taskmaster, Ernest Hawkins, acting frequently as their secretary, and they concluded the first portion of their revision in the course of the ensuing year. The preface—a composition that will still bear attentive perusal—was written by Dr. Moberly, the press arrangements were superintended by Canon Hawkins; and a thin volume in royal octavo, bearing the title “The Authorised Version of St. John's Gospel, revised by Five Clergymen,” appeared in March, 1857, as the first sample of a revision of the Authorised Version produced by the co-operation of several different minds. It was followed by the Epistle to the Romans, the Epistles to the Corinthians (the preface to which was written by Professor Ellicott), and subsequently by the Epistles to the Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians, by four of the number, Dr. Barrow having then left England. The work was very favorably received both in England and America. It received the commendation of Archbishop Trench, and was spoken of in America by Mr. Marsh, in his lectures on the English language, as “by far the most judicious modern recension” that was known to him. It passed through several editions, and, though now almost forgotten, must certainly be considered as the germ of the present revision. It showed clearly two things—first, that a revision could be made without seriously interfering with either the diction or the rhythm of the Authorised Version; secondly, that a revision, if made at all, must be made by a similar co-operation of independent minds and by corporate and collegiate discussion. A third fact also was disclosed which had a salutary effect in checking premature efforts—viz., that, as these revisers themselves said, the work was “one of extreme difficulty,” and of a difficulty which they believed was “scarcely capable of being entirely surmounted.” And they were right: the present revision, good in the main as we certainly believe it will be found to be, confirms the correctness of their experience. As we shall hereafter see, there are difficulties connected with a conservative re-

vision of the existing translation of the Greek Testament that are practically insuperable.

After this effort, which from the very first was felt to be only pre-lusive and tentative, the immediate interest in revision sensibly languished. There were those, however, who were determined that the efforts already made should not become utterly fruitless. As year by year went onward, every change in public opinion was closely watched by those who had taken part in the revision just mentioned, and especially by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol and Dean Alford. It was thought in 1869 that many things pointed to a revival in the interest felt in revision. The Bishop and Dean frequently conferred on the subject, consulted all those who were in any degree likely to forward the undertaking, and at length obtained the hearty aid and support of Bishop Wilberforce. The Bishop entered into the movement with real interest, and, as the sequel proved, materially contributed to its finally receiving a definite and authoritative sanction. The real difficulty was how to break ground. It was urged by those most interested that precedent seemed in favor of a Royal Commission. In the revision of 1611 the King was the sole actor; and, in the case of the only other Bible that rests on any really valid authority, the Great Bible, the king's viceregent, Lord Cromwell, has always been deemed to have been the real mover, and the one to whom the sole editor, Coverdale, was entirely responsible. It was also not forgotten that, in the two abortive attempts in Parliament and Convocation which have been already referred to, the proposal to proceed by way of a Royal Commission was not in itself objected to. There was, further, this very important consideration, that the extreme difficulties connected with the choice of those who were to undertake the revision would be much diminished in the case of a Royal designation. Those not chosen would be more likely to accept the decision, and in the sequel to prove more impartial and tolerant critics. The *spretæ injuria formæ*, as the case of Hugh Broughton in reference to the Authorised Version very distinctly shows, and as the revision of 1881 will also find out to its cost, is a very serious element in the early criticisms that are passed upon a work done by a necessarily selected few out of a larger and hardly less competent body. For these reasons it was deemed desirable that an address to the Crown should be moved for in the House of Lords, and in the following terms: "That a humble address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to appoint a Royal Commission to revise the Authorised Version in all those passages where clear and plain errors, whether in the Greek text originally adopted by the translators, or in the translation made from the same, shall, on due in-

vestigation, be found to exist." Before, however, so responsible a step was taken, careful inquiry was made how far such a resolution would obtain the support of those in authority. It was found that support could not be promised. It was pointed out that the choice of the future revisers would involve the greatest possible difficulties ; that a Commission, really to carry weight, must be very inclusive ; and that both its size and the necessarily heterogeneous nature of its elements would involve difficulties in the execution of the work, and still more in the final reception of it, that were judged to be too great to justify the experiment. The advice, frankly and considerably given, was acted upon, and the plan of a Royal Commission was at once given up.

It was obvious that the only other authoritative body before which the subject could be brought was Convocation. It was, indeed, feared that if Convocation undertook the work it would not unnaturally choose the revisers mainly out of its own members, and that thus, however well the work might be done, the results would never secure a really national acceptance. Still, there was no choice left. If Convocation were not applied to, it was clear the work would have to be postponed till a Royal Commission might seem more attainable ; and this, with the rapid movement of modern thought, and the necessity for the inclusion of very heterogeneous elements, would evidently become year by year a more hopeless anticipation. So it was finally resolved to bring the subject before Convocation, and to place that confidence in the wisdom of the venerable body which the sequel showed was not placed there in vain.

All was then arranged, and on February 10, 1870, the then Bishop of Winchester moved, and the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol seconded, the following resolution :

"That a committee of both Houses be appointed, with power to confer with any committee that may be appointed by the Convocation of the Northern Province, to report upon the desirableness of a revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament, whether by marginal notes or otherwise, in all those passages where plain and clear errors, whether in the Greek text originally adopted by the translators, or in the translation made from the same, shall on due investigation be found to exist."

The resolution was afterwards extended, on the motion of the Bishop of Llandaff, seconded by the Bishop of St. David's (Dr. Thirlwall), to the Old Testament ; the necessary words were inserted ; the practically unanimous assent of the House was given to the amended resolution, and a committee appointed. The committee consisted of the Bishops of Winchester (Dr. Wilberforce), Gloucester and Bristol, St. David's, Llandaff, Ely (Dr. Browne), Lincoln, Bath and Wells,

and Salisbury. This resolution was communicated at once to the Lower House, and there assented to very readily. It was moved by Canon Selwyn, and seconded by Dr. Jebb, that the Convocations of Armagh and Dublin should be consulted, as well as the Convocation of York, but this addition seems afterwards to have fallen through. The following committee of the Lower House was then appointed : The Prolocutor (Dr. Bickersteth), the Deans of Canterbury (Dr. Alford), Westminster and Lincoln (Dr. Jeremie) ; the Archdeacons of Bedford (Mr. Rose), Exeter (Mr. Freeman), and Rochester ; Chancellor Massingberd ; Canons Blakesley, How, Selwyn, Swainson, and Woodgate ; Dr. Kay, Dr. Jebb, and Mr. De Winton.

The subject was discussed shortly afterwards by the Convocation of York, but, unfortunately, owing to completely exaggerated fears as to the nature of the proposal, the Northern Convocation declined to co-operate.

The Joint Committee of the Convocation of Canterbury, formed of the two lists just specified, met March 24, 1870, and drew up their report in the form of the following resolutions :

" 1. That it is desirable that a revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures be undertaken.

" 2. That the revision be so conducted as to comprise both marginal renderings and such emendations as it may be found necessary to insert in the text of the Authorised Version.

" 3. That in the above resolutions we do not contemplate any new translation of the Bible, or any alteration of the language, except where in the judgment of the most competent scholars such change is necessary.

" 4. That in such necessary changes the style of the language employed in the existing version be closely followed.

" 5. That it is desirable that Convocation should nominate a body of its own members to undertake the work of revision, who shall be at liberty to invite the co-operation of any eminent for scholarship, to whatever nation or religious body they may belong."

The report was presented May 3, and the following resolution adopted :

" That a committee be now appointed to consider and report to Convocation a scheme of revision on the principles laid down in the report now adopted. That the Bishops of Winchester, St. David's, Llandaff, Gloucester and Bristol, Salisbury, Ely, Lincoln, and Bath and Wells, be members of the committee. That the committee be empowered to invite the co-operation of those whom they may judge fit from their Biblical scholarship to aid them in their work."

This resolution was communicated to the Lower House. After one day of discussion, and some consideration of details on the following day, the report of the large Joint Committee was adopted, and the following members of the Lower House appointed to co-operate with the Bishops above mentioned in carrying out the work : the Prolocutor,

the Deans of Canterbury and Westminster, the Archdeacon of Bedford, Canons Selwyn and Blakesley, Dr. Jebb, and Dr. Kay.

This second or, so to speak, executive, committee then seriously took the work in hand. They first met May 25, divided themselves into two bodies, or, as they were afterwards called, Companies, the one for the Old Testament, the other for the New, and proceeded to the difficult and delicate task of choosing colleagues, and of framing general and special rules for the carrying on of the work. The labors of the Committee were lightened by the fact that those originally most interested in the cause had already carefully collected the names of scholars who were judged to be most likely to aid the undertaking, and, when the Committee met, had a sufficiently full list to present to it. The general and special rules had also been prepared beforehand in draft by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and were accepted with but slight modifications.

The names of those invited at the above meeting, and at a short subsequent meeting on July 5, to become members of the Old Testament Company were as follow : Rev. Dr. W. L. Alexander, Mr. Bensly, Professor Chenery, Rev. Canon Cook, Rev. Professor A. B. Davidson, Rev. Dr. B. Davies, Rev. Dr. Douglas, Professor Fairbairn, Rev. F. Field, Rev. J. D. Geden, Rev. Dr. Ginsburg, Rev. Dr. Gotch, Ven. Archdeacon Harrison, Rev. Professor Leathes, Rev. Professor M'Gill, Rev. Canon Payne Smith, Rev. Professor J. H. Perowne, Rev. Professor Plumptre, Rev. Canon Pusey, Rev. Dr. Weir, Dr. Wright (British Museum), and Mr. W. A. Wright (Cambridge).

The names of those invited at the meetings of May 25 and July 5 to become members of the New Testament Company were as follow : The Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of St. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Angus, Rev. Dr. David Brown, Rev. F. J. A. Hort, Rev. Prebendary Humphry, Rev. Canon Kennedy, Ven. Archdeacon Lee, Rev. Dr. Lightfoot, Rev. Professor Milligan, Rev. Professor Moulton, Rev. Dr. Newman, Rev. Professor Newth, Rev. Dr. Roberts, Rev. G. Vance Smith, Rev. Dr. Scott (Master of Balliol College), Rev. Dr. Scrivener, Rev. Dr. Thompson (Master of Trinity College, Cambridge), Rev. Dr. Tregelles, Rev. Dr. Vaughan and Rev. Canon Westcott.

Of this long list of names some declined to take the position offered to them, though in every case with a courteous and friendly recognition of the proffered honor. Among these were Canons Cook and Pusey, Dr. Thompson and Dr. Newman. The Bishop of Lincoln and Dr. Jebb also soon afterwards resigned their places on the Old Testament Company. Of the New Testament Company (with which we are now more immediately concerned), it may be here mentioned that four were removed by death previous to the completion of

the work—viz., Dean Alford, Dr. Tregelles, Bishop Wilberforce and Dr. Eadie. As Dr. Tregelles was never able to attend, and Bishop Wilberforce only attended once, their places were not filled up. The place of Dean Alford was supplied by Dean Merivale, who, after attending for a short time, resigned, and was succeeded by Professor Palmer, now Archdeacon of Oxford. The place of Dr. Eadie was not filled up, as his death took place at a time when much of the work was done. The number of the working members of the New Testament Company was thus for the greater portion of the time twenty-four, and so continued to the close of the work.

The first meeting of the New Testament Company took place on June 22, 1870, under the presidency of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who held the position of chairman uninterruptedly to the end of the ten years and a half over which the labors of the revision extended. The titular chairman, Bishop Wilberforce, attended once for about a couple of hours; but it became, even in that time, apparent to the Company, and perhaps was so to the Bishop himself, that a little lighter hand and looser rein were required to guide the Company pleasantly through the intricacies of criticism and scholarship in which they were almost hourly finding themselves involved. The Bishop, however, remained a kind friend to the movement, which his own eloquence had so largely assisted, and was interested in it to the time of his lamented death.

During the remainder of the year the work went quietly onward. The New Testament Company found an able and accurate secretary in the Rev. J. Troutbeck, one of the Minor Canons of Westminster, and soon became thoroughly organized and habituated to their complicated labors. In the second year of the work some difficulties that beset them were completely removed. The Delegates of the Oxford University Press and the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press entered into a liberal arrangement with the two Companies by which funds were regularly forthcoming for all their expenses. It may be remembered that the revisers of 1611 were by no means so fortunate, and that the way in which their expenses were met during the greater period of their labors was very far from satisfactory.

The year that followed was marked by an event of great importance to the cause of revision—the formation in America of two Committees\* to co-operate with the two English Companies. Into the details of this movement in America, all of which are full of interest, our space will not now allow us to enter. In this more general narrative it may be enough to say that on July 7, 1870, it was moved in the Lower House of Convocation by the present Prolocutor (Lord Alwyne Compton) that

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[\*One committee, divided into two companies.—Ed.]



the Upper House should be requested to instruct the Committee of Convocation "to invite the co-operation of some American divines." This was at once assented to by the Upper House. It was, we believe, afterwards unofficially agreed that Bishop Wilberforce and the Dean of Westminster should undertake to act for the Committee in opening communications—the Bishop with the Episcopal Church, the Dean with the leading members of other communions. The result of this was that towards the close of 1871 two Committees were formed in America to communicate with the two English Companies on the basis of the rules that had been already laid down for the revisers in this country. Very soon afterwards portions of the first revision that had by that time been finished in England were transmitted to America, and a system of communication fully established. The work then went on continuously in both countries, the English Companies revising, and the American Committees reviewing what was thus revised, and returning their suggestions, both as regards the first and the second revision, to the two Companies at Westminster. The volume that will be published this day will contain a list of readings and renderings in which the American divines ultimately differ from the revisers in this country. When this list is fully considered, the general reader will, we think, be surprised to find that the differences are really of such little moment, and in very many cases will probably wonder that the American divines thought it worth while thus to formally record their dissent.

Such is a brief sketch of the history of the movement. It may now be convenient to mention the manner in which the actual work of revision was carried on by the Company. This will be more easily understood if we specify the principal rules which were laid down at the commencement of the undertaking, and to which allusion has already been made in the earlier part of this narrative. These rules were as follow :

"1. To introduce as few alterations as possible in the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness.

"2. To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions.

"3. Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.

"4. That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating ; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.

"5. To make or retain no change in the text on the second final revision by each Company except two-thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.

"6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to dis

cussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.

"7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.

"8. To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions."

In conformity with these rules the whole of the Authorised Version of the New Testament underwent a first revision. This extended over six years. The results were arrived at, in accordance with rule 5, by simple majorities, the Authorised Version having no further advantage than this—that it was considered to be the form before the Company, and that in accordance with the system of voting in the House of Lords it was maintained if the votes were equal. This first revision was transmitted, portion by portion, to America, and returned with the suggestions of the American Committee, their rules (as we have already implied) being the same as those laid down for the English Company.

On the completion of the first revision, the whole was gone over again, with the advantage of the criticisms and suggestions of the American Committee, but the voting was under changed principles. The Authorised Version was placed in a position of distinct advantage, and if raised in competition with the first revision, whether English or American, could only be prevented from returning by two-thirds voting against it. Where there was a difference of reading in the Greek, then the rule of two-thirds was not considered applicable, and the question was decided by a simple majority. Many renderings that had been removed from the Authorised Version were thus brought back again, though by no means to so large an extent as might have been beforehand supposed. The Company had been silently accumulating for itself a rough code of principles, and commonly remained true to them, even when the Authorised Version was raised in opposition to the newly formed revision. Close and continued inspection had also served to reveal that, admirable and thoroughly idiomatic as the Authorised Version might be, it was frequently very far from consistent: nay, even that it studiously affected a variety of diction when there was nothing to justify it in the original. These and other considerations led to the maintenance of the first revision to a greater extent than at first seemed probable.

The second revision, like the first, was communicated, portion by portion, to the American Committee, and by them returned with criticisms and suggestions. This, combined with the obvious necessity of endeavoring to preserve a harmony of rendering, as far as it

was reasonable and possible, led to a further review of the whole work, under, however, this common-sense condition, that the now twice-revised version was not to be changed except by a majority of two-thirds. The Revised Version, in fact, then had the prerogative which had belonged to the Authorised Version at an earlier stage of the work.

Such in general outline was the course of the procedure. Fuller details will be found in the Preface, but the above fairly represents the broad principles on which the Revised Version was constructed, and will probably suggest some confidence in the results. The Authorised Version had that supremacy assigned to it which the spirit of the rules absolutely required, and which, it may be said, the revisers were always ready most loyally to concede to it. The occasions, however, would of course be many in which the grave question of what constitutes "faithfulness" (Rule 1) would be somewhat differently interpreted by the individual members of a large company. A merely tentative revision, after which much would still remain to be done at a future time, would have been a grave mistake. This has certainly not been the case with the present work. Revision has been carried out to a fair and reasonable extent, but not, as it would appear, in any degree beyond it.

The same remark applies in great measure to the critical work of the Company in connection with the Greek text, which, we are glad to find, is to be published in a clear and handsome form by the University Press of Oxford. The principle in regard to textual criticism, it will be observed, was prescribed to be that of change only on "decidedly preponderating evidence." But here, as in the case of faithfulness in regard to the rendering, it is obvious that the estimate of what really constitutes decidedly preponderating evidence will be widely different with equally honest and impartial critics. To one, the long array of uncial witnesses, even though it may be almost certain that the mass of them were reproductions of some common exemplar, will seem clearly to constitute "decidedly preponderating evidence." To another, who may be guided by the well-known canon *non numerare sed appendere*, the concurrence of a comparatively small number of ancient authorities, representing independent textual traditions, and found by experience to be most worthy of credit, may be regarded, and justly regarded, as distinctly evidence of the nature referred to in the rule. It seems clear that this last was the prevailing interpretation given to the rule by the majority of the Company, so that, both in textual criticism as well as rendering, a decided line has been taken, and a standard maintained happily beyond that of a mere provisional and temporary revision.

There seems reason to believe that a close examination will show this to have been very consistently maintained, and that the evil of a text sometimes up to a good critical standard, and sometimes decidedly below it, has been successfully avoided. It might have been supposed from the action of the rule requiring two-thirds to reverse a reading supposed to underlie the Authorised Version, and, still more, from the necessarily fluctuating nature of the Company from month to month, and sometimes even from day to day, that such a standard could hardly have been maintained. It must, however, be remembered that loyalty to principles already felt out would always tend to repress any disturbing use of the rule ; and, further, that, in spite of fluctuations, there was a stable element in the Company which greatly helped in keeping up its traditions and principles. The punctuality of attendance is, indeed, one of the most striking features of this undertaking ; and when the length of the time is considered, and the distances at which many of the members resided from the place of meeting, probably unexampled in the history of committees. Out of the 407 meetings the chairman attended 405 times. Some others reached also a very high standard ; and, of those who attended more than three-fourths of the whole series of meetings, the number amounted fully to one-third of the whole Company. The existence of this comparatively stable element has tended to preserve harmony and consistency, and will be found to have been an important element in the success which we believe has been achieved by the work.

A very noticeable feature in the volume is the large amount of marginal notes. Of these some are short notes bearing on differences of reading in the Greek text adopted by the revisers, but the greater number are short notes specifying differences of rendering, which, either as having been preferred by a minority of the Company or as having been advocated by scholars of eminence, it seemed proper to specify. In the case of the Authorised Version it has often been said that the marginal note presents the rendering which was probably deemed by the revisers of that day to be really the most accurate. However this may be, the remark will not apply to the Revised Version. The text adopted represents that rendering which was deemed by at least one-third of the Company then present to be correct in the case of maintaining a rendering of the Authorised Version, and of at least two-thirds in departing from it. The text, therefore, as is obviously most desirable, records plainly the opinion either of the actual clear majority of those who considered and discussed the rendering, or of that portion of them which constituted a legal majority. We have thus in the Revised Version a clear expression of an opinion, and are left in no uncertainty, as is sometimes the case in the Au-

thorised Version, as to the actual meaning that is deemed to be conveyed by the original Greek.

The last portion of the work of the revisers is the Preface, a carefully constructed and elaborate document, in which the principles on which the revision has been made are set forth with considerable fullness of detail. This important introduction to the study of the volume was thus constructed : it was prepared in draft by the chairman several months before the conclusion of the work. A copy was sent round to each member inviting remarks and corrections. The copies so sent out were returned to the chairman, and formed the basis of a second and revised edition of the original draft. The document so amended was finally considered by the whole body collectively, and, after careful revision, accepted as the authoritative description of their work. It is to be hoped, in justice to the revision, that no formal criticisms will be passed on the labors of the Company until this careful and explicit document has been thoroughly mastered. If it teaches anything it will teach this—first, that the revision of a translation such as the Authorised Version is a work of almost insuperable difficulty ; secondly, that criticism, to be just, must not content itself with merely sporadic approval or disapproval of the renderings adopted, but must first intelligently master all the circumstances, conditions, and modifying details of the highly complicated undertaking.

What is stated by the revisers on the subject of alterations rendered necessary *by consequence* is well worthy of the most careful attention. From the single example that is adduced it will readily be inferred what strong reasons there may be in the background for changes which a mere off-hand critic might condemn with some passing show of plausibility. A work executed with the obvious care and devotion to the subject which every paragraph of the revision abundantly displays may, with justice, deprecate a criticism that has not taken equal pains to arrive at the true aspects of the passage or the circumstances under consideration. That there will be, especially at first, much criticism of a very precipitate nature is a matter of the most perfect certainty, but it is equally certain that criticism of this nature will not affect in the slightest degree the ultimate and probably slowly formed estimate of the present revision.

What that estimate will finally be it would be now utterly premature even to attempt to forecast. Our belief is that in the main it will be favorable, and the belief is founded upon the unquestionable fact that a body of competent scholars has bestowed extraordinary pains, for a lengthened period of time, on the revision alike of the text and the current rendering of the original. It seems contrary to

experience that such carefully organized efforts should ultimately fail. It is quite probable that here and there throughout the volume particular renderings will be objected to on reasons that will be ultimately considered valid ; and it is to be hoped that where such should be the case nothing will prevent the revisers from reconsidering their former decisions. This, as we know, took place in the case of the Bishops' Bible of 1568, and may properly take place, if found necessary, in the Convocation Testament of 1881. What is desired on all hands is, not only a technically correct rendering, but one also that by its diction, rhythm, and loyal adherence, where possible, to the version now in use should commend itself to the religious judgment of English-speaking people throughout the world.

[Then follows an editorial criticism of the Revised New Testament.];

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## CONVOCATION OF CANTERBURY.

May 17, 1881.

On Tuesday both Houses of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury met at Westminster for the despatch of business.

### THE UPPER HOUSE.

The Archbishop of Canterbury presided over the Upper House, which met in the Board-room of Queen Anne's Bounty Office. There were present the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop of St. Alban's, the Bishop of Hereford, the Bishop of Exeter, the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Bishop of Truro, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of Ely, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Bishop of Bangor, and the Bishop of Llandaff.

The Archbishop read a message, which he had ordered to be sent to the Lower House, to the effect that his Grace the President desired the attendance of the Prolocutor and such members of the Lower House as could conveniently attend to receive the report on the revision of the Scriptures.

In obedience to this message the Prolocutor (Lord Alwyne Compton) and a very large number of members of the Lower House attended.

The Archbishop, addressing them, said,—

“ I have requested the presence of the Prolocutor and such of the members of the Lower House who might wish to take part in this solemnity, as I regard it as a matter of great importance for you to hear now what are the results of the deliberations of the body who for many years have been engaged upon the solemn and onerous task of a revision of the Holy Scriptures in the English

tongue. The first report—that upon the New Testament—is to be presented to-day. We have good reason for believing and hoping that at no far distant date we shall have the second report—that upon the Old Testament; but to-day you will have only the first, and I have to call upon the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who is the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Revision, to lay the report before you.”

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol presented the following report :—

“The Joint Committee of the two Houses of Convocation, appointed May 5, 1870, for the revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures, beg leave to report that, with the assistance of the scholars and divines whose co-operation they were authorised to invite, they have completed one portion of their labors,—viz., the New Testament,—and now present the volume containing the same to his Grace in Convocation.”

His Lordship then expressed his deep thankfulness for the mercies vouchsafed to the Committee during the long time in which they had been engaged in the solemn and important task committed to their care; and he expressed also his hope that the blessing of God would further rest upon those labors, and that the Holy Scriptures would more and more be brought to the hearts and homes of every English-speaking people.

The Archbishop, addressing the Lower House, said that he had thought the occasion should not be allowed to pass without his expressing, on behalf of this Convocation, the deep thanks of both Houses to the Committee who had undertaken and carried out this work. Of course, this work had not yet been examined, and the Houses had yet to examine the revision in detail; but, nevertheless, the House would be thankful to the Committee for their labors. (Hear, hear.)

The Lower House then retired to their own chamber.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol then rose and said,—

“I have now the honor and responsibility of placing before your lordships a portion of the important work assigned by Convocation eleven years ago to a joint committee of the two Houses of this province. I now lay upon your lordships’ table the revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament as completed by the Company of which I have the honor to be the chairman. In placing before you such a work, so intimately connected with the past, and so closely bound up with the noblest labors of former centuries, it is not possible for me to leave unnoticed in such a speech as the present the various public efforts of which this is the last that, for well-nigh 350 years, have had for their object the setting forth, in the tongue wherein we were born, of the holy and inspired words of the written Book of Life. I must therefore ask your lordships to bear with me if I briefly allude to the various stages in the progress of the great work, and especially to the share which this House of Convocation has had in aiding and furthering the labors of the translators and revisers of the past. That share has not been a large one. Convocation, till this last revision, has never taken any prominent part in reference to the successive translations of the Holy Scriptures. Nay, at times, I fear, it has shown itself hostile and reactionary. Still it has its history in reference to the English Bible; and now to that history, as well as to the other movements that have publicly been made, I will

at once very briefly advert. We must look back 350 years. Tyndale's version of the New Testament had come over to this kingdom, and had been about four years in private but wide-spread circulation. The souls of men were profoundly stirred, and the desire to have at length the word of God in our own mother-tongue was vivid and universal. The first public action on the part of the Church was, I grieve to say, to condemn that version which was the bone and sinew of all that have followed it, Tyndale's translation of the New Testament. At a Council held at Westminster, under Archbishop Warham, in May, 1530, that version was condemned, but we may be thankful also to remember that it was agreed that the Archbishop should send out a document to be read by all preachers, in which the King's promise that the Scriptures should be translated in English was fully set forth. Four eventful years then passed away. The King's supremacy was acknowledged the next year, and the first steps taken for emancipating this country from the tyranny of Rome. In 1534 the subject of the translation of the Scriptures was renewed, and on the 19th of December in that year this Upper House of Convocation agreed that the Archbishop should, in the name of the members of the House, 'make instance with the King that Holy Scripture should be translated into the vulgar tongue.' Crammer at once set about the work: he appears to have sent portions of Tyndale's Testament to several bishops for review and revision. The bishops, it would seem, all returned their revisions; but, from some cause or other, it miscarried. The next year (1535) Coverdale's translation, dedicated to the King, stole into this country, and was allowed to circulate, though not formally licensed till 1537. The prayer of Convocation was thus still before the country. It was not directly granted, but it appears to have had this indirect effect, that, not more than three years afterwards, the royal license was given to the second edition of Coverdale's Bible, and to Rogers' or Matthews' Bible, and that two years later, in 1539, the Great Bible was published, of which Coverdale was the sole editor. This was an event of great importance, and may be regarded, in a certain sense, as the practical answer to the prayer of Convocation three years before. Convocation, however, I regret to say, was by no means satisfied with the answer, as very soon afterwards, in February, 1542, it was decided by this House that the Great Bible should be revised according to the Bible then in current use, or, in other words, to the Vulgate. Two committees were appointed. The Old Testament Committee was presided over by the Archbishop of York; the New Testament Committee by the Bishop of Durham. The matter was subsequently referred by the King to the Universities, but in the sequel it happily fell through. A generation then passed away. The Great Bible had meanwhile been revised, though in a very different manner to what the Convocation of 1542 had hoped for and had attempted. It had now passed, by the process of a revision, performed by several hands, into the Bishops' Bible. The Geneva version had also been published, and was obtaining so wide a circulation that in 1571 Convocation made a special enactment in favor of what it deemed the more orthodox volume—the Bishops' Bible. Every Bishop was to have a copy in his palace. Cathedrals, and, as far as possible, parish churches, were to provide themselves with this last authoritative revision. Somewhere about this time there appears to have been some thought of a movement in Parliament, as an undated paper has been found among the archives of the House of Lords, containing the sketch of a bill for 'reducing diversities of Bibles now extant in the English tongue to one settled vulgar translated from the original.' Another generation then passed away, during the whole of which three versions were in



practically competitive circulation—the Great Bible, the Genevan version, and the Bishops' Bible. In Convocation there seems to have been some little reaction in favor of the Great Bible, for in May, 1604, Canon 80 was passed, by which it was provided that every church-warden was to provide for each parish a Bible '*amplissimi voluminis*,' or, as it would certainly seem to imply, the Great Bible of more than sixty years before. But a great and signal change was now very near at hand. In February of the same year (1604) a passing remark of Dr. Reynolds at the Hampton Court Conference led the King seriously to take up the subject of a revision of the existing translations, and before the conference broke up it appeared as one of the points desired by the King, and, in fact, carried at his instigation, viz., 'That a translation be made of the whole Bible as consonant as can be to the original Hebrew and Greek.' This was the fundamental resolution, and, as we well know, by the action of the King and some unknown but most competent advisers, learned men were called together, and the great work which we familiarly know by the name of the Authorised Version was set forth to the Church and the world in the year of our Lord 1611. In reference to this version nothing was said or done either in Convocation or Parliament. This revision is to be attributed solely to the King and to the wise and learned men whom he was providentially able to call together for the execution of this great and time-honored work. More than a generation then passed away, during which the Authorised Version was steadily growing in public favor and vindicating year by year its distinct superiority not only over the Bishops' Bible, but over the popular Genevan Bible. And it was, perhaps, owing to this last fact that we find Dr. Lightfoot urging, in a sermon preached before the House of Commons in August, 1645, the desirableness of a revision of the Scriptures, and apparently with some effect; for, in 1658, a bill was actually introduced for a new revision. Some preparatory steps were taken; but happily the Parliament—the Long Parliament—was dissolved, and the plan entirely fell through. For two hundred years all desire for any further authoritative revision had entirely died out. There were revised portions of Holy Scripture, in this long interval, by individual scholars, but nothing that in any degree helped forward the present movement. At the end of this long period, however, it was plain that the desire for a new revision had revived, and that the subject was beginning to take its place among the leading questions of the day. In the year 1836, which might rightly be characterized as the germinal year of the present movement, Canon Selwyn (ever a true and warm supporter of revision) moved in Convocation, and Mr. Heywood a few months afterwards moved in Parliament, for the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the whole question. The public movements failed; but a private movement made by five clergymen (one of whom is the present speaker, and another my right rev. brother the Bishop of Salisbury) in great measure succeeded. The publication in the following year (1857) of a revised version of the Gospel of St. John by these five clergymen was generally admitted to have established these two positions—(1) that a sober and conservative revision of the Holy Scriptures might in due time very hopefully be undertaken; (2) that when undertaken it would be, almost beyond doubt, on the principles which this little company of scholars had gradually and experimentally felt out. The time, however, was not then ripe, though the process of maturation had commenced. So half a generation passed away. Fresh critical subsidies were accumulating; new exegetical works were multiplying; and at last the time was ripe, and the great movement with which Convocation has been so intimately connected began in February, 1870, and shortly after assumed an

authoritative and practical form. In that month, as your lordships well remember, the late Bishop of Winchester moved in this House, and the present speaker seconded, a preliminary resolution, which was accepted by both Houses practically unanimously, and acted upon in little more than four months afterwards. An executive committee was formed; some fortyscholars and divines outside Convocation were invited to take part in the work. Two Companies were formed, the one for the Old Testament and the other for the New Testament, and both at once addressed themselves to their long and responsible work. Soon afterwards two Committees were formed in America, and regular and systematic communication established between the scholars on this side and the other side of the Atlantic. The New Testament Company commenced its labors on June 22, 1870, and closed them on November 11, 1880, and the result of those labors is the volume which I have had the honor and responsibility of placing upon the table of this venerable House. And here I might, not improperly, close this present address; yet, if I rightly interpret my present duty, and perhaps also the wishes and desires of your lordships, I ought not to do so on this somewhat memorable occasion without saying a few words on the manner in which the task committed to us has been done, and also a few words, but only a few words, on the nature and characteristics of the revision. In regard of the manner in which the work of revision was carried on, I may remind your lordships that it was in accordance with rules which had been laid down at the commencement of the work. They were framed with due regard to modern requirements and ancient precedents, being in many respects identical with the rules prescribed for the revisers of 1611, and the rules which appear to have been observed by those who took part in the Bishops' Bible fifty years before. These rules were constantly tested, and, I am thankful to say (for I was in some measure responsible for them), proved efficient and sufficient to the end. These rules it may, perhaps, be convenient that I should read to your lordships, as they set forth in a succinct form the course which was to be followed by the Companies in the prosecution of their work:—(1) To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness. (2) To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions. (3) Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided. (4) That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin. (5) To make or retain no change in the text on the second and final revision by each Company except two-thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities. (6) In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting. (7) To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation. (8) To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions. Of these rules, one only was found to be superfluous—the rule which prescribes that, if required by one-third of the Company, the voting might be deferred on any difficult and debated question till the following day. The object was to prevent any lingering heat of controversy having any influence on the final decision, and to insure a perfectly calm and, as far as pos-

ible, unbiased decision. The rule, however, was never put in action. By the mercy and blessing of God, no occasion ever arose which made it in any degree necessary. Amid ceaseless differences of opinion and countless divisions, the brotherly feeling and harmony that prevailed among us remained unimpaired to the very end, and rendered all such postponement of the final expression of opinion wholly unnecessary. All the rest of these rules, as our preface will show more fully in detail, were very carefully observed. They were felt by us to present three broad principles, upon which I will venture to make a few observations, as tending to illustrate that on which I now am speaking—the manner in which we have endeavored to execute our work. In the first place, we have felt that what was required of us, not only in the criticism and translation, but in all the details of the revision, was to express a corporate and collective judgment. It is this which distinguishes our work from every other revision that has preceded it. It has been the work of a large body of men sitting together, and arriving at their results after full corporate discussion. This, as we know, was not the case with the Bishops' Bible. Our latest historian of the English versions of the Bible (Dr. Eadie) reminds us not only that there was no consultation among the revisers, but even no final supervision. We have no reason for thinking that it was otherwise with the Genevan Bible, which, though the work of persons dwelling for a time in the same city, does not present any traces of having been executed or discussed in common. The first edition, indeed, of the New Testament is known to have been the work of a single hand. Even in our Authorised Version the work of revision was carried on, in the case of the New Testament, by two separate companies, that only communicated their results to each other, but never discussed them in common. In the final supervision, which, however, only lasted nine months for the whole Bible, the discussion was probably corporate, but it was only by a small number, and, from the very nature of the case, was probably more of a merely harmonising nature than a revision in the true sense of the word. In our case it has been utterly different. Revision and supervision have been carried through by the whole Company. Every detail has been submitted to it; every decision has emanated from it; every judgment rests solely upon its authority. The volume now lying upon your lordships' table is the result, in every part and portion, of united and corporate discussion. And if this was our first principle, not less strictly observed was our second principle—viz., to express that corporate judgment with precision and distinctness. I do not think there will be found in the whole volume the faintest trace of a rendering which would adjust itself to one or other of two competing views of the meaning of the original Greek. Our rule was invariably to put in the text the judgment of the majority, and that of the minority in the margin, that majority and minority being of the nature defined by the rules. There is thus nowhere any uncertain sound. Nor is there any ground whatever for supposing, as is sometimes the case in the Authorised Version, that the margin is the more correct rendering, which, for some reason or the other, it was not deemed desirable to place in the text. However it may be with the Authorised Version, it is certainly not so with the Revised. The text expresses the rendering or the decision of the majority of the Company—that which it deliberately preferred; the margin expresses the view of the minority, and is to be so regarded by the reader. Our third principle was not only to express our corporate judgment with clearness, but to do so only after the fullest and most varied consideration. There is not a hastily arrived at judgment to be found in any page of the Revised Version. No precipitate decision has any place whatever in the

results that are now submitted to you. When I mention that the work has actually gone through seven revisions I feel that I am justified in making the statement which I have just made to your lordships in regard to the decisions arrived at in this volume. Yes, my lords, seven revisions, all more or less thorough and complete. First, the whole of the version committed to the Company was revised by it, and then transmitted to America. It was then reviewed by the American Committee, and returned back again to England. It then underwent, in accordance with the rules, a second revision in England, and was again transmitted to America. After these four revisions it yet underwent a fifth revision in England, mainly with a view of removing any hardness of diction, or of remedying any rhythmical defects which might have been introduced through the various changes which had been imported in the course of this fourfold revision. There was yet a sixth and most important revision in the form of a harmonizing review of the whole, thus far, completed work. A Greek concordance of the New Testament was divided into fourteen parts. Of these, twelve of the members most constant in their attendance each took a part (the chairman taking two), and made themselves individually responsible for a close examination of all the renderings of the words, each in the portion allotted to them. All varieties of rendering were thus brought up before the Company, and wheresoever necessary the judgment of the collective body formally taken upon them. Thus there was a sixth revision. And even, in a certain sense, a seventh; for it so happened that one of the two portions taken by the chairman contained the article and the relative pronouns. This involved on the part of the chairman a careful reading through, line by line, of the whole volume. This reading revealed several inconsistencies in the use of the English relative that had escaped notice, and also disclosed a few slight inconsistencies in other words or expressions which had in some way or other eluded the vigilance of the revisers. When I add to this that throughout all this lengthened process the attendance was most remarkable in regard to numbers and punctuality—the average attendance during the whole ten and a half years being as high as sixteen out of twenty-four—I think I may be justified when I say that the third principle at which we aimed—the expression of opinions only after the fullest and most varied consideration—was thoroughly and faithfully observed. I now pass, in the last place, to a few remarks on the nature and characteristics of the version itself, which is now lying on our table. Much I need not say, as the Preface which is prefixed to the volume really tells this with a fulness and a detail that leave little to be added on the present occasion. Perhaps, as before, it may be best for me to gather up my remarks into the form of two or three general comments. Permit me, then, to say that these three characteristics will certainly be found on every page of the Revised Version—thoroughness, loyalty to the Authorised Version, and due recognition of the best judgments of antiquity. Our version is certainly thorough—thorough both in regard of the text and the rendering. That thoroughness, as your lordships will remember from the rules which I but recently read to you, was to be regulated by the principle of faithfulness in regard of the translation and a due regard to decidedly preponderating evidence in the case of the Greek text which we regarded as the basis of our rendering. Faithfulness and decidedly preponderating evidence are, of course, both of them expressions which admit of a great variety of interpretations, and, in a numerous body like that of the New Testament Company, were certain to receive them. Without troubling your lordships with any enumeration of these varying shades of opinion, it may be sufficient to mention, as the general result, that the revision both of the Greek

text and of the Authorised translation has been thorough and up to a full standard of correction. And it would have been a great misfortune if it had been otherwise. A timid revision that had not the nerve to aim at comparative finality, but was simply suggestive of a renewal of the process when the public mind might be judged to be again ready for it, would have had a very unsettling effect, and really would have frustrated the very progress that it contemplated; for such a kind of revision would be used as a standing argument against any revision at all. Moreover, to modify a high standard, in some subsequent review, is a process comparatively easy; but to elevate a lower and tentative standard, in the case of a translation of the New Testament, would be found, if attempted, a work of such peculiar difficulty that it would be very speedily abandoned. No such misfortune has happened to the Revised Version. It represents as full a measure of correction as is required by faithfulness, fairly estimated, but nothing beyond it. The minor changes by which it is marked are certainly numerous, but all have only one common object—the setting forth with greater clearness, force, and freshness the language and teaching of the inspired original. Eleven years ago I alarmed your lordships by the estimate which I then formed of the amount of change that would be needed; and, I remember, I led my brother of Salisbury to say that my words would frighten people from one end of the land to the other. If the estimate was deemed to be alarming, I fear I may alarm your lordships still more when I state the actual results and compare them with what was then only anticipated. I comfort myself, however, with the thought that when you go to the revision itself these alarms will speedily be dissipated. What I stated as the very lowest estimate was six changes for every five verses, one of these six changes being for critical and textual reasons. What has actually taken place is an average for the Gospels of between eight and nine changes in every five verses—somewhere about one and a half, or three in every ten verses, being for critical changes. As might be expected, the average for the Epistles is still higher. It appears to amount to about fifteen changes for every five verses—one and a half as before being due to critical changes. I have formed this calculation on a rigidly accurate examination of the revised version of the Sermon on the Mount and the General Epistle of St. James, two connected portions of Holy Scripture containing each about the same number of verses. Yet, with all this thoroughness of revision and numerically high standard of correction, the effect to the general hearer or reader will really hardly be perceptible. This is due to the second characteristic of our version, its persistent loyalty to the Authorised translation. To any candid reader nothing will be more patent than this throughout the whole volume. Our words in the Preface will show the great reverence that we have ever felt for that venerable version, and our practice on every page will show how, even when words may have been changed, our reverence has shown itself in such a careful assimilation to the tone and rhythm of that marvellous translation that the actual amount of change will scarcely ever be felt or recognized. Sometimes this has been effected by the choice of a word of the same rhythmic quality as that which is displaced; sometimes by a fortunate inversion; sometimes by the reproduction of a familiar and idiomatic turn; sometimes by the preservation of the cadence even when more than one of the words which had originally helped to make it up had become modified or changed. In a word, our care throughout has been, while faithfully carrying out revision wheresoever it might seem needed, to make the new work and the old so blend together that the venerable aspect of the Authorised Version might never be

lost, and its fair proportions never sacrificed to the rigidity of a merely pedantic accuracy. The third characteristic of the version—due recognition of the best judgments of antiquity—though not equally patent, will, I hope and believe, rarely be looked for in vain. In all more difficult passages we have ever given especial heed to the great early versions, and to the voice, wherever it could be heard in the same language as that which we were translating, of primitive and patristic antiquity. In many of those passages, perhaps, on which hereafter we may be most severely criticised—as, for instance, in the ‘deliver us from the Evil One’ of the Lord’s Prayer—it will be found that we are but reproducing that which had always been the interpretation of the best and earliest writers of the Greek-speaking Primitive Church. We have thus sought to tread the old paths as well as the new, and, while never neglecting modern scholarship, have never reversed old interpretations without such a clear amount of contextual or linguistic authority as rendered such a reversal a matter of distinct and indisputable faithfulness. But, my lords, I must detain you no longer. Such, in general outline, is the Revision which I now have the honor of placing before you. Whatever may be its faults and shortcomings, it has been done faithfully, and it has been done prayerfully. Its pages bear the results of long-continued and arduous labors; but those labors would have been as nothing if they had not been hallowed and quickened by prayer. Such is this revision of 1881; not unworthy, I trust and believe, to take its place among the great English versions of the past; not also without the hope of holding a place among them of honor, and, perhaps, even of pre-eminence. But those things belong to the future. For the present, it is enough that I commend this volume to the favorable consideration of your lordships, and ask for it your fatherly prayers.”

The Archbishop, on behalf of the House, recorded thanks to those members of the Revision Committee who were not appointed by Convocation, and his Grace also expressed his opinion that the House was very fortunate in having had the advantage of the services of a scholar such as the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol to take part on behalf of the House in this revision. (Hear, hear.)

The Bishop of London expressed his hope that the position this Revised Version would take would not be misunderstood. He feared that this position had been misunderstood. The Revised Version had been spoken of as if it would at once take the place of the Authorised Version. He begged to remind the House that no one could at present use this Revised Version. When the whole work was completed it would go out to the public and would be before the Church for consideration; it might be years before the proposed alterations from the Authorised Version had so approved themselves to the Church—both clergy and laity—that steps could be taken to give authority for the use of the Revised Version. However, it must be understood that the Revised Version could not now be used in the churches. He begged to express the hope that there might not be, for the next two or three years, frequent speaking and discussion by young clergymen, especially by those who most probably could not construe the original, on the proposed alterations set forth. A great deal of patient study ought to precede any attempt at criticism of the proposed alterations, and clergymen—young clergymen especially—who had little knowledge of the original, should be careful not too readily to express an opinion as to the superiority of the one version over the other. The real purpose and value of the revision was that it laid before the Church and the laity alike the opinions of ripe scholars and of

the ancient Church, and the result was an exceedingly valuable one, upon which, however, no opinion could be given until after full study and with adequate knowledge. The House would be thankful for the work which, under the blessing of God, had thus been carried out—a work, however, which did not supersede that version of the Scriptures which all English-speaking Christians had learnt to esteem and love. (Hear, hear.)





# **Part First.**

**ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.**



ORGANIZATION  
OF  
THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM JULY, 1870, TO DECEMBER, 1872.

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[Letter of Dr. Angus to Dr. Schaff.]

COLLEGE, REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, June 9, 1881.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

I enclose a copy of Dr. Ellicott's letter, as you request, and a copy of a letter I sent to Dr. Woolsey and others from New York early in Aug. 1870. Your proposed rules you no doubt have. The Report to the Bishop and his approval thereof I can hardly send: on my return I put it all into Dean Stanley's hands, who has corresponded with you. The details have great interest. . . .

It will give us pleasure to see you on our side again.

Yours,

JOSEPH ANGUS.

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[Letter of Bishop Ellicott to Rev. Dr. Angus.]

(Copy.)

PORTLAND PLACE, London, July 20 [1870].

DEAR DR. ANGUS:

As you do me the favor of asking me, I take the responsibility, as acting chairman of the New Testament Company of the revision body, herewith to commend you as one of our most trusty helpers to the scholars in the United States who may be interested in the undertaking. Perhaps you will kindly explain to them how we work, viz., round a common table, and how it is thus difficult for us to incorporate our brethren across the water. It will, however, be very easy for us to transmit our work in its provisional state to an authorised committee in the United States, and pay all attention to the corrections they may suggest and the observations they may be pleased to offer. We shall be very interested in hearing when you come back how you may have arranged.

Pray give my respectful compliments to any scholars with whom you may confer, and believe me very sincerely,

Yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

[BISHOP ELLICOTT, *Chairman of the N. T. Company.*]

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[Letter of Dr. Angus to American Scholars.—Sent out in August, 1870.]

MY DEAR SIR:

I am not sure whether you have seen the enclosed plan of Bible revision [the rules, etc., of the English Company]. The method adopted of having the work done by each Company together makes it impracticable to ask the co-operation of brethren in America at the initial stage of their proceeding: but there is a strong and general feeling among the revisers that we should get their co-operation to the extent at least of securing their criticisms and suggestions before our revision is finally published. Could you help in such a work by looking over the revision as we prepare it, and giving suggestions? If a committee of a dozen or eighteen were formed in the States, we could send the copy of the revise to each, and they might meet and agree on suggestions. If meetings are impracticable, we might still obtain individual judgments; but the plan of a united judgment has obvious advantages. The expense of such meetings would not be great: and probably it might be met by friends interested in our work. In England the revisers give their time and labor; and we propose to meet the expenses of printing and travelling by an appeal to the English public. Expenses in America might be met in a like way; or we might add these expenses to ours, and meet them all out of a common fund. I had hoped to confer with you on this subject during the N. Y. Alliance meetings. They, however, are postponed, and I must therefore trust largely to correspondence. Bishop Ellicott (our acting chairman) gives me an introduction and asks me to obtain such help as I am now writing about.

Dr. Schaff and Dr. Conant agree to help either individually or in committee. When you have thought the matter over, favor me with a reply addressed to the Alliance Rooms, Bible House, New York.

Yours very sincerely,

JOSEPH ANGUS.

[Letter of Dr. Schaff to Dr. Angus, President of Regent's Park College, London, and Member of the Commission for the Revision of the English Bible.]

NEW YORK, Aug. 18, 1870.

MY DEAR DR. ANGUS :

In compliance with your request, at our recent interview,\* I beg leave to submit to you and to Bishop Ellicott the results of my thoughts on the important subject of American co-operation with the British Commission appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury, May 6th, 1870, for the Revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures.

#### SUGGESTIONS.

1. The members of the American Committee to be invited by the British Committee from the best Biblical scholars of the leading evangelical denominations of the United States, with power to add to their number and to supply their vacancies.

2. The American Committee to co-operate with the British Committee on terms of fraternal equality and on the basis of the principles and rules adopted by the Convocation of Canterbury and the British Committee.

3. The British Committee to submit to the American Committee, from time to time, parts of their work as they have passed the first revision, and the American Committee to submit their suggestions to the British Committee for the second revision.

4. A joint meeting of both Committees to be held, if possible, in London or New York, for the final revision.

5. The expenses of the American Committee to be met by the American friends of revision.

6. The following names of American scholars are suggested as being most likely to secure the universal confidence of the churches they represent :†

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\* [Dr. Angus visited the United States as a delegate to the Sixth General Conference of the Evangelical Alliance, which was to be held in New York, Sept., 1870, but was postponed, on account of the Franco-German war, to the autumn of 1873. He had several personal interviews with Dr. Schaff, and requested him to draw up a plan of co-operation and a list of revisers, and to address him at Chicago on his Western journey. Dr. Angus visited the United States again in 1873, and met the American revisers when they were at work in the Bible House.]

† It is expected that, in addition to the names here suggested, the British Committee will select and invite some bishops and divines of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States to co-operate with the American Committee. This list, therefore, is *designedly incomplete*.

*A. For the Old Testament Company.*

Prof. Green, D.D., Theol. Seminary at Princeton, N. J. (Presbyterian).

Dr. Conant, Brooklyn, N. Y. (Baptist).

Dr. Van Dyck, Am. B. C. F. M., Beyrut, Syria, translator of the Arabic Bible.

Dr. Whedon, Ed. "Meth. Quarterly Review," New York (Meth.).

Prof. Tayler Lewis, Union Col., Schenectady, N. Y. (Ref'd).

Prof. Day, D.D., Yale Col., New Haven (Congregationalist).

Prof. Mead, D.D., Andover, Mass. (Congregationalist).

*B. For the New Testament Company.*

President Woolsey, Yale Col., New Haven (Congregationalist).

Rev. Dr. Washburn, New York (Episcopalian).

Prof. Henry B. Smith, D.D., or Prof. William G. T. Shedd, D.D., Union Theol. Sem., N. Y. (Presbyterian).

Prof. Hackett, D.D., or Prof. Kendrick, D.D., Rochester Theol. Sem., N. Y. (Baptist).

Prof. Chas. Krauth, D.D., Univ. of Pa., Phila. (Lutheran).

Prof. Charles Hodge, D.D., Princeton, N. J. (Presbyterian).

Prof. Strong, S.T.D., Drew Sem., Madison, N. J. (Methodist).

Rev. Dr. Stowe, Hartford, Conn. (Congregationalist).

This list, however, should be kept subject to revision before a formal appointment is made.

Hoping that your visit to this country will result in the complete success of your mission in regard to this important subject,

I am yours very truly,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

Rev. Dr. JOSEPH ANGUS, now at Chicago.

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[Dr. Angus to Dr. Schaff.]

LONDON, Aug. 15, 1881.

MY DEAR FRIEND :

\* \* \* I greatly fear there is no document earlier than the Bishop's letter, which I sent you. Convocation authorized this Committee to correspond and arrange with foreign scholars. That resolution was published as part of the original programme. When I was visiting the States in 1870 I spoke to the Bishop of

Gloucester, our acting chairman, and said that if I could help on our work on your side I would gladly do so. This note was the result. I had previously had a large amount of consultation with him on various questions: my speaking to him on the matter was very informal. On my return I presented my report, and then Dean Stanley, as a member of the original Committee, took up the matter and corresponded with you. Meanwhile, the lawyers declared that our *Company* (not the Committee of Convocation) alone had power over our work, so that the correspondence was between your *Companies* and ours. That correspondence you have, and any resolutions in relation to it (which are very few however,) are on *our minutes*, which minutes are now deposited in the *Lambeth Library*.

The note I sent you, therefore, is really the *beginning* of everything: the documents came after, when the scholars named were requested to act, or recognized as acting, in that matter. The exact wording you ought to have, or it may be seen in our minutes. The words "at his request," in the Bishop's letter, mean simply that I pressed the importance of American co-operation, and offered to do anything I could to secure it; the confirmation of all depending, of course, on the subsequent action of the *Companies*.

With all affectionate regards,

JOSEPH ANGUS.

[Dean Stanley to Dr. Schaff.\*]

DEANERY, WESTMINSTER ABBEY, }  
LONDON, Jan. 13, 1871. }

MY DEAR SIR:

I have been in communication with Dr. Angus on the subject of the revision of the Authorised Version of the Bible, now set on foot by two Companies of English, Scottish, and Irish scholars, appointed under the authority of the Committee of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury.

By that Committee, and in pursuance of a vote of the Lower House of Convocation, the Bishop of Winchester and myself were requested to ask the friendly co-operation of some divines from the United States of America in a work that, it was felt, concerned

\* [The handwriting of the late Dean Stanley is almost illegible, and, with all the care taken in deciphering his hieroglyphics, it is quite possible that some slight mistakes may have been made.]

that vast part of the English-speaking races of the world as nearly as ourselves. I find that the Bishop of Winchester has already communicated on the subject with Bishop Potter,\* with the view of procuring the assistance of such scholars as the Protestant Episcopal Church of America may furnish; and I, therefore, undertake the charge of addressing myself to you, as having been the centre, as I understand, of the communications of the non-Episcopalian churches with Dr. Angus during his recent visit. May I ask you, in consideration of the distance of space and the length of time which would be involved in repeated correspondence with each member, to enter into such negotiations as you may deem advisable with the scholars of these churches?

It will, of course, be readily understood that the object of the Committee of Convocation and of the revising Companies is to procure the assistance of which I speak purely on the ground of scholastic and Biblical qualifications—the assistance, as the vote of Convocation expressed it, “of any eminent for scholarship, to whatever nation or religious body they may belong.” With this view I have consulted with Dr. Angus and others, and venture to submit a list of such eminent persons as have occurred to us as falling within the above description. You will, perhaps, have no difficulty in arranging with them, and, also (if you think fit), with Bishop Potter, representing the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to whom I have not written, as the Bishop will understand, only because he has already received a communication from my superior in rank, the Bishop of Winchester.

The details of the mode of co-operation will easily suggest themselves; on them I need not at present enter, but will conclude with the hope that the joint and cordial co-operation in this great and holy work may add another link to the friendly intercourse and communion between English Christendom and that powerful and ever-increasing offspring that it has produced beyond the Atlantic.

Yours very faithfully,

A. P. STANLEY.

[This letter is accompanied by two papers: (1) the principles and rules of the British Companies (A), which will be found further on in the letter of invitation to American revisers (p. 42), and (2) by the following list of revisers (B) and Post-script.]

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\* [This letter is not accessible, but a later letter of Bishop Wilberforce, dated Aug. 7, 1871, is given below, together with the action of the American House of Bishops declining to co-operate. See pp. 47 and 48.]



## [B.]

List of names suggested by Dr. Angus after conference with American divines.

*Old Testament.*

Dr. T. J. Conant, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Prof. W. H. Green, D.D., Princeton, N. J.  
Prof. Tayler Lewis, Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.  
Prof. C. M. Mead, Andover.  
Dr. Van Dyck, Beyrut, Syria.  
Dr. Whedon, New York.

*New Testament.*

E. Abbott, LL.D., Librarian of Harvard Col., Cambridge, Mass.  
Prof. H. B. Hackett, D.D., Rochester, N. Y.  
Prof. Kendrick, D.D., Rochester, N. Y.  
Prof. C. P. Krauth, University of Pa., Phila.  
Prof. Jas. Strong, D.D., Drew Seminary, Madison, N. J.  
Prof. C. E. Stowe, Hartford, Conn.  
Prof. Dr. Philip Schaff, New York.  
Prof. Shedd, D.D., New York.  
Prest. T. D. Woolsey, D.D., Yale College, New Haven.

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The Episcopalian divines suggested by Dr. Angus are here omitted, in consideration of the communication opened between the Bishop of Winchester and Bishop Potter, it being thought more convenient and important that they should be invited through that channel.

It has also occurred to me that on points of language and taste it would be right to consult Dr. Longfellow, the poet, and Mr. Marsh, author of the well-known work on the English language.

P.S.—You will understand that the long delay which has taken place has been occasioned only by the necessity of discussing, with the various persons here concerned, the best mode of action.

It may, perhaps, prevent any further necessity of correspondence to and fro, if I add that the arrangement which was discussed between you and Dr. Angus seems to be perfectly satisfactory, and no doubt would commend itself to the Companies here,—

that the British Companies shall, from time to time, communicate to the American Companies such parts of their work as have passed the first revision, and that the American Companies should communicate their suggestions to the British Companies, if possible, before the second revision.

The enclosed paper (A)\* will indicate the principles on which the British Companies act, and on which, of course, the American Companies would act for the sake of uniformity.

The enclosed list (B) contains the names to which I referred in my letter ;—many of the persons so indicated have, I understand, indicated their willingness to serve.

A. P. S.

[Dr. Schaff to Dean Stanley.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Feb. 7, 1871.

*The Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster.*

MY DEAR DEAN :

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 13th, in which you authorize me, in the name of the two Companies of British divines for the revision of the English version of the Bible, and in pursuance of a vote of the Lower House of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury,† to invite a certain number of American scholars, whose names I had suggested to our friend Dr. Angus, at his request, during his recent visit to this country, to form a Committee in friendly co-operation with the British Committee, for the promotion of the important work entrusted to their care.

It will afford me great pleasure to extend this invitation to the gentlemen named in your letter, including the two distinguished laymen (Mr. Longfellow and the Hon. Geo. P. Marsh), whom you very properly suggest as being well qualified to aid the Committee by their advice on points of language and taste.

As to the selection of suitable Biblical scholars who are to represent the Protestant Episcopal Church, I shall, at your suggestion, put myself in communication with Bishop Potter, of the Diocese of New York, and inform him that I am ready to act in concert with him in this whole matter.

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\*[The principles and rules adopted by the British Revision Companies. See p. 42.]

†[The resolutions were adopted by *both* Houses of Convocation.]

There is a deep and growing interest among the churches of America in the work of such a careful and judicious revision of our admirable version of the Holy Scriptures as will adapt it to the present state of sound Biblical scholarship without sacrificing its idiom and hallowed associations, or any of its beauties and felicities. There is, moreover, a strong confidence in the ability and soundness of Christian scholarship which has already been enlisted in behalf of this revision. In my opinion the British companies are abundantly competent to discharge their trust without foreign assistance. Yet, inasmuch as the revision concerns all denominations who use the English version in public worship and in their daily devotions, it is extremely desirable to secure at the outset the hearty sympathy and co-operation of representative Biblical scholars from all parts of Anglo-Saxon Christendom, so that the revision may appear with a sort of œcumenical authority.

I am happy to learn that the suggestions I made to Dr. Angus in regard to the best mode of co-operation meets your approval; namely, that the English Companies of the O. and N. T. transmit, from time to time, such portions of their work as have passed the first revision, to the American Committee for their examination and suggestions, which are to be returned before the second and final revision.

As soon as I shall receive the first part of your work, say the Gospel of St. Matthew, which I understand is about half completed, I shall invite the members of the Committee to meet in my study, or some other convenient place, for the purpose of organizing and proceeding with their work as expeditiously as possible.

In conclusion, I can only reciprocate your wish that this enterprise may strengthen the union between Great Britain and the United States on the basis of the revealed Word of our common Lord.

In pleasant remembrance of our interviews at Oxford in 1844, and in the Deanery of Westminster in May, 1869,

I am, with profound respect,

Yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Potter.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Feb. 8, 1871.

*The Right Rev. Bishop Potter, D.D., New York.*

MY DEAR SIR :

I have received a communication from the Dean of Westminster, authorizing me, in the name of the two British Companies for the revision of the English Version of the Holy Scriptures, and in pursuance of a vote passed by the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury, to invite a certain number of Biblical scholars of the various non-Episcopal denominations in the United States whose names I had previously suggested, by request, to form an American Committee in co-operative union with the British Committee for the accomplishment of the work of revision, which concerns all branches of Christendom using the Authorized English Version in public worship and in their daily devotions.

I have also been informed that the Bishop of Winchester has written, or will write, to you concerning the selection of suitable Biblical scholars who are to represent the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

At the suggestion of Dean Stanley, I beg leave to inform you that I am ready to receive any communication you may be pleased to make to me on the subject, and to act in concert with you in this important enterprise.

I embrace this opportunity to assure you of the high consideration with which I subscribe myself,

Your obedient servant in the Lord,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Bishop Potter to Dr. Schaff.]

NEW YORK, 38 East Twenty-second Street, }  
Feb. 14, 1871. }

*To the Rev. Dr. Schaff.*

MY DEAR SIR :

I beg to acknowledge the communication made by you at the suggestion of Dean Stanley respecting the subject of revision, and to say,—*first*, that my letters from the Bishop of Winchester touching that undertaking have as yet made no reference to the

formation of an American Committee, and, *second*, that it will not be in my power, in any event, to take any action in relation to it.

I am, my dear sir,  
Very respectfully and cordially yours,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HORATIO POTTER.

[Dr. Schaff to Dean Stanley.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Feb. 27, '71.

*The Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster.*

MY DEAR DEAN :

I have made all arrangements for carrying out your wishes in regard to American co-operation with the work of revision, but a communication from Dr. Potter, Bishop of the Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church of New York, makes it desirable to wait for further instructions.

At your suggestion, I wrote to the Bishop that I was ready to receive any communication he may desire to make to me on the subject, and to act in concert with him. He courteously replied, first, that his letters from the Bishop of Winchester have as yet made no reference to the formation of an American Committee, and second, that "it will not be in his power, in any event, to take any action in relation to it."

Please inform me as early as convenient :

(1) Whether you wish me to organize the Committee as far as the non-Episcopal scholars are concerned, without waiting for further action on the part of the Bishop of Winchester and his correspondents in this country.

(2) Whether, in view of Bishop Potter's declining to act in the matter, I may be authorized to invite Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio (who is well known in England), the Rev. Dr. Washburn, of Calvary Church, New York (a highly accomplished scholar), or any other Episcopal scholars you might name, to act as members of the American Co-operative Committee on Revision.

Most truly yours,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PHILIP SCHAFF.

[Dean Stanley to Dr. Schaff.]

DEANERY, WESTMINSTER, April 8, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR :

I have to apologize for the long delay in answering your last letter.

It has been solely occasioned by the preoccupations of the Bishop of Winchester, which prevented him from being able to give his attention to the subject at an earlier date.

I now, with the Bishop's approval, write to say that we do not feel ourselves authorised to offer any suggestions for the regulation of the mutual relations of the American scholars amongst themselves.

I had written to you on the supposition that, as in England, so in America, the Episcopalian scholars would have felt no difficulty in co-operating with their non-Episcopalian brethren, and I would still hope that this may eventually be found to be the case. But at this distance of space and time, and in the presence of the objections which your letter communicates to us, I think it better that any arrangements of this kind on the other side of the Atlantic should be left to be settled amongst yourselves.

My former letter was, as you are aware, sent on the understanding that the names mentioned to me by Dr. Angus were such as would commend themselves to the scholars of the United States, and that the communication with the Episcopalian Church through the Bishop of Winchester was the mode that would be most agreeable and most respectful to themselves.

If you think it advisable, with a view of preventing any further misunderstandings, to publish my correspondence with you, you are quite at liberty to do so; and I trust that, in that case, the slight difficulty which has arisen may be dispelled.

Yours faithfully,

A. P. STANLEY.

I may add that the provisional revision of the Gospel of St. Matthew and of the Book of Genesis will not be completed for some weeks, and till that time it would be premature to send over any proof-sheets.

I may also add that the resolutions of Convocation anent which these communications have been made, were not, as might be inferred from a passage in your letter, confined to the Lower House, but were unanimously adopted by both Houses, and as such acted upon by the Joint Committee, consisting of members of the Upper as well as of the Lower House.

A. P. S.

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[Dr. Schaff to Dean Stanley.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, May 1, 1871.

*The Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster.*

MY DEAR DEAN :

I received your letter of April 8, in which you renew your request, with the approval of the Bishop of Winchester, that I should organize an American Committee on the revision of the Authorized English Version of the Bible in co-operative union with the British Committee.

I shall now without further delay proceed in this work and discharge the trust as well as I can. I intend to confine myself to a small and select number of Biblical scholars of recognized authority and representative character, who are able and willing to give efficient aid in this important and responsible enterprise.

I have drawn up a plan, and submit to you three printed documents: 1. A Letter of Invitation. 2. The Principles of the British Committee. 3. Draught of a Constitution of the American Committee. I shall be glad to learn your opinion on this plan.

I do not see any good reason at present for publishing our correspondence.

I expect to sail for England early in June, and hope to confer with you and other members of the Committee personally on this subject.

With great respect, yours,  
PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Documents submitted to Dean Stanley, as promised in preceding letter.]

1. *Letter of Invitation.*

No. 38 BIBLE HOUSE, New York, — — 1871.

DEAR SIR :

I have been requested and authorized by the British Committee for a revision of the Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures, through the Dean of Westminster, to form an American Committee in co-operative union with the British, and to invite a select number of Biblical scholars from different denominations to assist in the proposed revision.

You are aware that this important work has begun under very favorable auspices, and has already enlisted the best Biblical scholarship of Great Britain.

It affords me great pleasure to extend to you, hereby, an invitation to become a member of the *Old (New) Testament Company* of the American Committee.

I trust that you will not hesitate to co-operate in a work which concerns all branches of American Christendom as much as those of British, and which will

be followed with deep interest by all who use the English Bible in their public and private devotions.

To facilitate your decision, I inclose the principles and rules of revision which have been adopted by the two Companies of the British Committee, and also the draught of a constitution for the American Committee, which will be submitted to them when they are convened for organization.

In accordance with a provisional arrangement, the two Companies of the British Committee will forward, from time to time, such portions of their work as have passed the first revision to the American Companies for examination, and the American Companies will send the results of their deliberations to England before the second revision.

As soon as the first portion of the revision (the Gospel of Matthew) arrives, I intend to invite those members of the American Committee who have in the meantime accepted the appointment, to meet in New York, for the purpose of effecting an organization and proceeding with their work in such manner as they may deem best.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, I am, in Christian bonds,

Truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[A]

## PRINCIPLES AND RULES OF THE BRITISH COMMITTEE.

At the first meeting of the Committee, appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury, May 6, 1870, in accordance with the sub-joined Report,\* accepted by Convocation at its last session, the following resolutions and rules were agreed to as the fundamental principles on which the revision is to be conducted :

### RESOLVED,—

I. That the Committee appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury at its last Session separate itself into two Companies, the one for the revision of the Authorised Version of the Old Testament, the other for the revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament.

II. That the Company for the revision of the Authorised Version of the Old Testament consist of the Bishops of St. David's, Llandaff, Ely, Lincoln, and Bath and Wells, and of the following members from the Lower House: Archdeacon Rose, Canon Selwyn, Dr. Jebb, and Dr. Kay.

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\* "1. That it is desirable that a revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures be undertaken."

"2. That the revision be so conducted as to comprise both marginal renderings and such emendations as it may be found necessary to insert in the text of the Authorised Version."

"3. That in the above resolutions we do not contemplate any new translation of the Bible, or any alteration of the language, except where, in the judgment of the most competent scholars, such change is necessary."

"4. That in such necessary changes, the style of the language employed in the existing version be closely followed."

"5. That it is desirable that Convocation should nominate a body of its own members to undertake the work of revision, who shall be at liberty to invite the co-operation of any eminent for scholarship, to whatever nation or religious body they may belong."



III. That the Company for the revision of the Authorised Version of the New Testament consist of the Bishops of Winchester, Gloucester and Bristol, and Salisbury, and of the following members from the Lower House : the Prolocutor, the Deans of Canterbury and Westminster and Canon Blakesley.

IV. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the Old Testament Company be the revision of the Authorised Version of the Pentateuch.

V. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the New Testament Company be the revision of the Authorised Version of the Synoptical Gospels.

VI. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the Old Testament Company :—

ALEXANDER, Dr. W. L.	GINSBURG, Dr.	PLUMPTRE, Professor
CHENERY, Professor	GOTCH, Dr.	PUSEY, Canon
COOK, Canon	HARRISON, Archdeacon	WRIGHT, Dr. (British Museum)
DAVIDSON, Professor A.B.	LEATHES, Professor	WRIGHT, W. A. (Cambridge)
DAVIES, Dr. B.	MCGILL, Professor	
FAIRBAIRN, Professor	PAYNE SMITH, Canon	
FIELD, Rev. F.	PEROWNE, Prof. J. H.	

VII. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the New Testament Company :—

ANGUS, Dr.	LEE, Archdeacon	SMITH, Rev. G. VANCE
BROWN, Dr. DAVID	LIGHTFOOT, Dr.	SCOTT, Dr. (Balliol Coll.)
DUBLIN, Archbishop of	MILLIGAN, Professor	SCRIVENER, Rev. F.
EADIE, Dr.	MOULTON, Professor	ST. ANDREWS, Bp. of
HORT, Rev. F. J. A.	NEWMAN, Dr. J. H.	TREGEELLES, Dr.
HUMPHRY, Rev. W. G.	NEWTH, Professor	VAUGHAN, Dr.
KENNEDY, Canon	ROBERTS, Dr. A.	WESTCOTT, Canon

VIII. That the general principles to be followed by both Companies be as follows :

1. To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness.
2. To limit as far as possible the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions.
3. Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.
4. That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating ; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.
5. To make or retain no change in the text on the second final revision by each Company, except *two-thirds* of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.
6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.
7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.
8. To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions.

IX. That the work of each Company be communicated to the other as it is completed, in order that there may be as little deviation from uniformity in language as possible.

X. That the special or by-rules for each Company be as follows :

1. To make all corrections in writing previous to the meeting.
2. To place all the corrections due to textual considerations on the left hand margin, and all other corrections on the right hand margin.
3. To transmit to the chairman, in case of being unable to attend, the corrections proposed in the portion agreed upon for consideration.

S. WINTON,\* *Chairman.*

MAY 25, 1870.

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[B]

## DRAUGHT OF A CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

*Subject to Revision.†*

I. The American Committee for a revision of the Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures to be constituted by authority and with the concurrence of the British Committee, and to be composed of a select number of Biblical scholars and divines from the leading Protestant denominations of the United States.

II. The American Committee, when constituted, to have the power to elect their officers, to add to their number, and to fill their own vacancies.

III. The American Committee to co-operate with the British Committee on terms of fraternal equality, and on the basis of the principles and rules of revision adopted by the Convocation of Canterbury and the British Committee.

IV. The American Committee to separate itself into two Companies, the one for the revision of the Authorized Version of the Old Testament, the other for the revision of the Authorized Version of the New Testament.

V. The British Committee to submit to the American Committee, from time to time, such portions of their work as have passed the first revision, and the American Committee to transmit their criticisms and suggestions to the British Committee before the second revision.

VI. A joint meeting of both Committees to be held, if possible, in London or New York, before final action.

VII. The American Committee to pay their own expenses, and to have the same ownership and control of the copyright of the Revised Version in the United States of America which the British Committee have in Great Britain, until they are reimbursed for the necessary expenses incurred.

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[\* Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, of Winchester.]

[† This constitution, with the suggestions of the Dean of Westminster (see next letter), was afterwards submitted to, amended, enlarged, and adopted by the American revisers at their first meeting, December 7, 1871. See below.]

[Dean Stanley to Dr. Schaff.]

DEANERY, WESTMINSTER, May 30, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR :

I beg to thank you for the papers which you have sent to me through Dr. Adams.\*

I take the liberty of calling your attention to two or three inaccuracies almost inevitable from the complex nature of the work and of the negotiations involved, but which had better be corrected in order to avoid misunderstandings.

In your letter of invitation (paragraph 1) it would be more exact to say :

"The British Committee for a revision of the Authorized Version have requested the Bishop of Winchester and the Dean of Westminster to communicate with the scholars of the United States of America with a view to inviting their co-operation in the work of revision. The Bishop of Winchester has communicated with the American Episcopal Church. I have been requested and authorized by the Dean of Westminster to communicate with scholars from the other denominations."

In paragraph 7, of the same paper, the phrase "the Gospel of Matthew" had better be omitted. There is no likelihood,—especially no certainty, of that Gospel being circulated for the second revision until further progress has been made with the work.

The Paper B :—

Paragraph 1 had better read thus :

"The American Committee for a revision, etc., to be composed of a select number of Biblical scholars and divines from the United States."

For (1) it is manifestly out of the question for the *British Committee* at this distance of time and space to undertake upon itself "the constitution" of the American Committee. That must be left to the Americans themselves.

(2) As the sole qualification desired is that of scholarship, it is against the principles laid down by the British Committee and accepted by Convocation and the companies to bring forward into prominence "the leading denominations." And, under any circumstances, the word "*Protestant*" is unnecessary, and would be in-

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\* [See the preceding three documents, which were transmitted with the accompanying letter to Dean Stanley through the kindness of the late Rev. Dr. William Adams, President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York.]

consistent with the invitation issued by the British Committee to an eminent Roman Catholic (Dr. Newman). Dr. Newman declined purely on grounds of his not being sufficiently familiar at present with the needful scholarship. But there will be no objection on the part of the British Committee or Companies were any Roman Catholic scholars of the United States willing to join.\*

Paragraph III. Omit the words "*with the British Committee on terms of fraternal equality.*" For all practical purposes the dealings of the American Committee will be with the Companies, not with the Committee, and the expression "*fraternal equality,*" though doubtless most reasonable as regards the spirit in which it is made, might mislead unless more carefully explained.

Paragraph V. For the same reason the words "*Companies*" to be substituted for "*Committee.*"

Paragraph VI. The spirit of this is excellent, but as it is unlikely that it can practically be carried into effect, and might, therefore, mislead, it had better be omitted.

Paragraph VII. By a recent and necessary arrangement the copyright of the Revised Version in England will, so far as is practicable, be transferred to the two Universities that have undertaken the cost of printing and publishing. The whole of the clause, as regards the copyright, had, therefore, better be omitted as inapplicable and misleading.

I trust that these corrections will be accepted in the spirit in which they are proposed, and that they will obviate further misapprehensions.

Yours faithfully,

A. P. STANLEY.

[Before this letter was received Dr. Schaff had a personal conference with Dean Stanley, at Westminster, and came to a full agreement with him on the several points of difference.]

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\* [No Roman Catholic divines were invited to join the Committee, because it was taken for granted that their conscientious convictions and official position would not permit them to co-operate with Protestants in the revision of a Protestant translation of the Holy Scriptures. Cardinal Newman, who was pre-eminently qualified as a scholar and master of classical English, had no doubt weightier reasons for declining than the one which he modestly put forward.]

[Letter of Bishop Wilberforce, of Winchester, to Bishop Potter, of New York.]

(Copied from the "Journal and Proceedings of the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church," 1872, pp. 615-616.)

BUSBRIDGE HALL, GODALMING, Aug. 7, 1871.

RIGHT REVEREND BROTHER :

As the time of your General Convention approaches, it seems to me due to my high respect and brotherly affection for your venerable body that I should, as Chairman of the Committee of the Convocation of Canterbury which is charged with the duty of preparing a revised text of our Authorised Version of the Sacred Scriptures, communicate formally to you what has been done, is doing, and is intended, touching an enterprise which must, I think, deeply interest all the English-speaking branches of the Church of Christ, and, very specially, our beloved sister communion in America. The purpose for which the Committee was appointed was this :—not to make a new translation, but to exhibit, in a revised version of the existing translations, any corrections which either the discovery of new manuscripts and versions or the advance of scholarship, allowed the Committee to recommend. It was our universal belief that these corrections, though important as to technical accuracy, would affect no doctrine, and add to instead of diminishing the authority of the present version. We felt that there was danger in leaving suspicion free to exaggerate according to her wont, small defects, and swell them to dimensions which might weaken the authority of the existing version. The Committee having been appointed with power to seek *aliunde* the assistance of experts qualified by classical and biblical learning for the task, has formed, out of itself and such associated workmen, two companies ; one of which is proceeding with a proposed revision of the Old, and the other of the New Testament. From the first, our Convocation desired the aid of your body, and I have myself made various communications from it to individual members of your Episcopate. The approaching session of your General Convention gives me the opportunity of a more formal communication, which I now make to you as the Presiding Bishop, requesting you to bring the matter, in such way as you deem meet, before the General Convention. As our work has proceeded, it has appeared impossible for us to obtain from you in the progress of our labors that aid to which we still look forward at their close. When the work of the Companies is finished, it

will be the duty of the Committee of the Convocation in its separate unity to revise the work done, and either to reject it, or to lay it, with or without alterations, before the Convocation of Canterbury. That body will then judge for itself of the merit or demerit of what its Committee so presents to it. Should the Convocation judge it so far successful, it would authorize such other steps as it may deem fit. One of these, I have little doubt, would be to submit the tentative revisions to the other English-speaking branches of the Church, and should your Convention encourage our doing so, pre-eminently to you. No such important change as any alteration in the Authorised Version of the Sacred Scriptures could be carried out without allowing full time for all such judgments as that of your branch of the Church to be formed and expressed ; nor until the revised version had received the sanction of general approbation could it, in any sense, be authorised amongst ourselves.

Commending this important matter to your care, and earnestly seeking your prayers for the due fulfilment of the work in hand, through the heavenly assistance of God the Holy Ghost, for the glory of the eternal and ever-blessed Trinity, and the edification of the Church of Christ, I remain, right reverend and dear brother,

Yours in the bonds of the common faith.

(Signed)

SAMUEL WINTONENSIS.

THE RIGHT REV. THE PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE CHURCH IN AMERICA.

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[Action of the House of Bishops on the preceding letter.]

(From the "Journal," etc., pp. 262-353.)

A communication from the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester, Chairman of the Committee of the Convocation of Canterbury on the Revision of the Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures, to the Presiding Bishop, was read by the Secretary.

On motion of the Bishop of New York it was

*Resolved*, That this communication be laid on the table, and printed for the use of the House. (p. 262.)

The Bishop of New York offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Right Rev. the Presiding Bishop be and is hereby requested to return to the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester a courteous and brotherly acknowledgment of his

communication relating to a revision of the English of the Holy Scriptures, stating that this House, having had no part in originating or organizing the said work of revision, is not at present in a condition to deliver any judgment respecting it, and at the same time expressing the disposition of this House to consider with candor the work undertaken by the Convocation of Canterbury, whenever it shall have been completed, and its results laid before them.

The Bishop of Louisiana moved to strike out the following words : " Having had no part in originating or organizing the said work of revision " ; which was lost.

The question recurring on the original motion of the Bishop of New York, it was adopted. (p. 353.)

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[During the summer of 1871 Dr. Schaff had satisfactory conferences with the English Companies in the Jerusalem Chamber, and especially with the Dean of Westminster and Bishop Ellicott, concerning American co-operation. After his return the correspondence was resumed.]

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[Dean Stanley to Dr. Schaff.]

DEANERY, WESTMINSTER, Oct. 14, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR :

In answer to your letter just received by the Bishop of Gloucester,\* I take up the thread of the correspondence which, as I was the first to begin (under the direction of the Committee of Convocation) I may as well continue.

Your proposal as to the mode of transmitting the proofs will be far the best plan. Our main anxiety is to secure that under no circumstances shall the proof become public or be made known beyond the circle of revisers till the time comes for submitting to the public such portions of the work as have received the final touches which it will have received from the various suggestions made to us, whether from this side or the other side of the Atlantic. When that time comes the public will have every opportunity of judging of our labors, but not before.

It would be a satisfaction to the members of the Company (both for their own information and also for the sake of the security to which I refer) to have a complete list of those to whom (whether as actually taking part in a continual consideration of

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[\* Of this letter no copy is found ; its contents must be inferred from the answers.]

the revision or as occasional referees) the proofs should be sent. The list which you agreed upon with me when you were here is perhaps exhaustive, but as I could not be perfectly sure of this, I think it better that we should have the list exactly as it exists in your hands.

Yours faithfully,

A. P. STANLEY.

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[Bishop Ellicott to Dr. Schaff.]

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 23, 1871.

DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I send herewith a resolution from our Company which will explain itself.

We meet again Nov. 14, and if this reaches in time should be rejoiced to have a line from you by that time.

I am thankful to say that we are going on capitally. We meet for four days every month, and do on an average forty verses a day.

I trust this finds you well. Pray present my best respects to your Company.

Very faithfully yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

#### RESOLUTION.

That the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol be requested to communicate with Dr. Schaff to the effect that the work of the N. T. revisers is at present only tentative and provisional, and that it may be considerably altered at the second revision ;—but that upon the assurance of Dr. Schaff that the work, so far as it is at present advanced, will be considered as *strictly confidential*, the Company will send a sufficient number of copies for Dr. Schaff and his brother revisers, for their own private use, the copies to be in no way made public beyond themselves.

For this purpose that Dr. Schaff be requested to send the names and addresses of the scholars associated with him in this matter so soon as the Company is completely formed.

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[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Ellicott.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Nov. 10, 1871.

MY DEAR LORD BISHOP :

I have the honor to acknowledge your favor of Oct. 23 inclos-



ing a resolution of the New Testament Company of Revisers with reference to American co-operation.

In reply, I beg leave to say that I was fully aware of the tentative and provisional character of the first revision, and intended to shape the American work accordingly. When I had the pleasure to confer with you personally and with the other members of the Company last June, it was agreed that a limited number—say about thirty copies—of the revision of *Matthew* should be forwarded to me this autumn to be distributed among the American revisers for strictly *private use*, and that other portions of the work as it progresses should follow. The American revisers were to examine the work of the English Companies, and to submit to them from time to time the results of their work for the second and final revision. On my return from the continent last Sept. I called at the Deanery of Westminster and learned from your Secretary that he would send *Matthew* as soon as he had directions from the Company, which would meet again in October.

I did not think it worth while to convene the American revisers before I could lay before them some practical work. I have invited only a limited number of representative scholars of the leading denominations, and they have accepted, and are ready to co-operate as soon as I call them together. I inclose a copy of the letter of invitation with the accompanying documents. As soon as the Company is properly organized I shall forward you the names and addresses. But it will be more convenient for the Secretary to forward the packages to me, and I shall see that every reviser receives a copy with the understanding that no *public* use whatever be made of it. The present number of American revisers is fourteen, seven (the holy number) for the New Testament, and seven for the Old. But when they come together they may find it advisable to increase the number. I would rather leave this to them, having confined myself to such scholars about whose qualifications there can be no doubt.

I shall now look forward to a speedy transmission of *Matthew*, and shall be happy to receive any communication your Lordship may see proper to make to me on this important subject.

May the Holy Spirit of wisdom and harmony preside over your meetings and bless your labor of love for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom. With profound respect,

Yours in the Lord,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

## NOTE.

[On his return from Europe, in autumn, 1871, Dr. Schaff proceeded with the work of organizing the American Committee. Most of the scholars applied to accepted the invitation, and their letters are on record. For those who declined, others were selected after proper consultation. A complete list of members will be given below. After a sufficient number of members were secured to justify an organization, a meeting was called for the purpose. The correspondence relating to this meeting and the results of the meeting now follow.]

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[A circular letter to the members to convene for organization.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 28, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR:

You are respectfully invited to attend the first meeting of the American revisers of the Authorized Version of the English Bible, at my study, in the Bible House, on Thursday the 7th of December, at 10 A.M., for the purpose of effecting an organization and adopting a constitution.

You are also invited to attend a public meeting on Bible Revision in Calvary Episcopal Church (Dr. Washburn's) in Fourth Avenue, at 8 o'clock, on the evening of the same day, when the Rev. Dr. Howson, Dean of Chester, will speak on the subject in behalf of the British Companies of Revision.\*

Respectfully yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

To

REV. DR. WOOLSEY, New Haven, Conn.

" DR. GREEN, Princeton, N. J.

" DR. CONANT, Brooklyn, N. Y., and others.

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[Dr. Schaff to Dean Howson.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 28, 1871.

*The Very Rev. the Dean of Chester.*

MY DEAR SIR:

I acknowledge your favor of yesterday in which you inform me that you have been able to fix upon Thursday the 7th of December for the public meeting on Bible Revision.

This is the best time, and Dr. Washburn's church the best place,

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[\* Dean Howson, D.D., then present on a visit in America, is not one of the British revisers, as he belongs to the Convocation of York, which refused to join the Convocation of Canterbury in the revision, but he is in full sympathy with the movement, and expressed a desire to aid it during his visit in any way he could.]

for the meeting. I shall at once invite the American revisers to meet for organization in my study in the Bible House, on Thursday the 7th of Dec. at 10 A.M. You are hereby cordially invited to meet with them. Some of them may find it convenient to attend the public meeting in the evening.

The arrangements for the public meeting I must leave in the hands of your Episcopal friends. Dr. Cotton Smith, I understand, is unwell. Dr. Washburn called yesterday, and expressed himself ready for co-operation whenever informed of your conclusion. He expects to see you this evening at Dr. Morgan's, when you can arrange with him the details.

If I can be of any use to you during the remainder of your stay in this country, I shall be most happy to have an opportunity. You will find me in my study every morning.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

I inclose the Doc. which I have prepared so far for the benefit of the Am. revisers.

[First Meeting of the American Committee.]

(The following extract from the *Minutes* of the Committee (p. 5), was furnished to the press by the Rev. Dr. Day, as an authorized statement of the facts relating to the recent formation of an American Committee, in co-operation with the British Committee, for the Revision of the English Version of the Scriptures.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 7, 1871.

At a meeting of gentlemen invited by Rev. Philip Schaff, D.D., to meet this day at his study, Bible House, New York, for the purpose of forming an organization to co-operate with the British Committee in the revision of the Authorized English version of the Scriptures, the following persons were present, viz. :

Prof. Philip Schaff, D.D., New York ; Prof. Henry B. Smith, D.D., New York ; Prof. William Henry Green, D.D., Princeton, N. J. ; Prof. George Emlen Hare, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa. ; Prof. Chas. P. Krauth, D.D., Philadelphia ; Rev. Thos. J. Conant, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y. ; Prof. George E. Day, D.D., New Haven, Conn. ; Ezra Abbot, LL.D., Cambridge, Mass. ; Rev. Edward A. Washburn, D.D., New York.

Dr. Howson, Dean of Chester, was also present by special invitation, and took part in the deliberations.

Ex-President Woolsey, Prof. Hackett, Prof. Strong, and others,

were prevented from attending, but expressed by letter their hearty interest in the proposed work, and their readiness to co-operate.

The meeting was organized by the appointment of Prof. Henry B. Smith as Chairman, and Prof. Geo. E. Day as Secretary.

After prayer by the Chairman, Dr. Schaff introduced the subject of the meeting by stating that he had been requested by the British Committee for the Revision of the Authorized English Version of the Scriptures, through the Dean of Westminster, to invite American scholars to co-operate with them in this work. He had accordingly extended such an invitation to a limited number of scholars, most of them professors of biblical learning in theological seminaries of the leading Protestant denominations. In the delicate task of selection, he had reference, first of all, to the reputation and occupation of the gentlemen as biblical scholars; next, to their denominational connection and standing so far as to have a fair representation of the American churches; and lastly, to local convenience, in order to secure regular attendance on the meetings. He would have gladly invited others, but thought it best to leave the responsibility of enlargement to the Committee itself when properly constituted. He had personally conferred during last summer with Bishop Ellicott, Dean Stanley, Prof. Lightfoot, Prof. Westcott, Dr. Angus, and other British revisers, about the details of the proposed plan of co-operation, and was happy to state that it met their cordial approval.

Dr. Schaff then read the following list of scholars who had been invited to engage in this work, and who have accepted the invitation:

#### *I. On the Old Testament.*

Rev. Thomas J. Conant, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Prof. George E. Day, D.D., New Haven, Conn.

“ John De Witt, D.D., New Brunswick, N. J.

“ Wm. Henry Green, D.D., Princeton, N. J.

“ George Emlen Hare, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.

“ Charles P. Krauth, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.

“ Joseph Packard, D.D., Fairfax, Va.

“ Calvin Ellis Stowe, D.D., Hartford, Conn.

“ James Strong, D.D., Madison N. J.

Rev. C. V. A. Van Dyck, D.D.,\* Beyrut, Syria.  
 Prof. Tayler Lewis, LL.D., Schenectady, N. Y.

## II. *On the New Testament.*

Ezra Abbot, LL.D., Cambridge, Mass.  
 Prof. H. B. Hackett, D.D., Rochester, N. Y.  
 " James Hadley, LL.D., New Haven, Conn.  
 " Charles Hodge, D.D., Princeton, N. J.  
 " Matthew B. Riddle, D.D., Hartford, Conn.  
 " Philip Schaff, D.D., New York.  
 " Charles Short, LL.D., New York.  
 " Henry B. Smith, D.D., New York.  
 " J. Henry Thayer, D.D., Andover, Mass.  
 Rev. Edward A. Washburn, D.D., LL.D., New York.  
 " Theo. D. Woolsey, D.D., LL.D., New Haven, Conn.

A draft of a constitution for the American Committee was then presented by Dr. Schaff, which, after being considered article by article, and somewhat amended, was unanimously adopted, and is as follows:

"I. The American Committee, invited by the British Committee engaged in the revision of the Authorized English Version of the Holy Scriptures, to co-operate with them, shall be composed of biblical scholars and divines in the United States.

"II. This Committee shall have the power to elect its officers, to add to its number, and to fill its own vacancies.

"III. The officers shall consist of a President, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President shall conduct the official correspondence with the British revisers. The Secretary shall conduct the home correspondence.

"IV. New members of the Committee and corresponding members must be nominated at a previous meeting, and elected unanimously by ballot.

"V. The American Committee shall co-operate with the British Companies on the basis of the principles and rules of revision adopted by the British Committee.

"VI. The American Committee shall consist of two Companies, the one for the revision of the Authorized Version of the Old Testament, the other for the revision of the Authorized Version of the New Testament.

"VII. Each Company shall elect its own Chairman and Recording Secretary.

"VIII. The British Companies will submit to the American Companies, from time to time, such portions of their work as have passed the first revision, and the American Companies will transmit their criticisms and suggestions to the British Companies before the second revision.

"IX. A joint meeting of the American and British Companies shall be held, if possible, in London, before final action.

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[\* Dr. Van Dyck, the translator of the best Arabic Version of the Bible, cannot be expected to attend the meetings, but may be occasionally consulted on questions involving a thorough knowledge of Arabic and other Shemitic languages. He afterwards sent several written communications to the O. T. Comp.]

"X. The American Committee to pay their own expenses, and to have the ownership and control of the copyright of the Revised Version in the United States of America."\*

A communication from Bishop Ellicott to Dr. Schaff, dated Oct. 23, 1871, was read, containing the following resolution of the British Committee.

[Now follows the resolution of the British Committee communicated by Bishop Ellicott in his letter to Dr. Schaff dated October 23, 1871.—See p. 50].

After some other business relating to future work, the following action was taken :—

"That the Rev. Dr. Schaff, in conjunction with the officers of this meeting, be requested to publish such an account of the formation of the American Committee of Revision, and the work intrusted to it, as may be necessary for the information of the Christian public.

"HENRY B. Smith, Chairman.

"GEORGE E. DAY, Secretary."

[The public meeting referred to in the previous communication was held on the evening of the same day (Dec. 7), in Calvary Episcopal Church, New York, and very largely attended by clergymen and intelligent laymen. It was conducted by the rector, Dr. Washburn, and addresses were made by Dean Howson and Dr. Schaff. Full accounts were published in the *Christian Intelligencer*, the *Church Journal*, and other religious papers.]

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[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Ellicott.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.

*The Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.*

MY DEAR BISHOP:

I send you by to-day's mail a number of copies of statement concerning the formation of the American Revision Committee, for distribution among British Revisers. I inclose one in this letter.

Dean Howson has probably already reported to you, having been present by invitation at our meeting. I am happy to add that everything looks promising. We are now waiting anxiously

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[\*The last article, as far as it refers to the publication of the revision, was abandoned by the American Committee in the course of negotiations with the British Universities, for sufficient reasons, as will be shown below.]

for the Gospel of *Matthew*, and for *Genesis*, that both Companies may go to work without much delay.

The gentlemen composing the two American Companies are among the ablest biblical scholars in the United States, and command general confidence.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Dr. Schaff to Dean Stanley.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Jan. 2, 1872.

*The Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster.*

MY DEAR SIR:

The request of your letter of Oct. 14 has been anticipated. You must have received by this time the inclosed printed report of the organization of our Committee, with a list of American revisers.

The list is the same as the one which I originally proposed, with a few necessary changes. It includes the best known biblical scholars of our leading literary institutions. The press has indorsed the selection as judicious and impartial. I have not heard of a single complaint. We shall probably elect some honorary members for occasional consultation.

We are now anxiously waiting for copies of *Matthew* and *Genesis* revised, and shall go to work as soon as they arrive. About thirty copies will be sufficient for the present revisers. We shall keep your and our work strictly confidential.

As the Committee hold their meetings in my study until permanent arrangements can be made, the copies may all be sent to me, and I shall have them distributed. I understood all along that the arrangement made with you applies to the Old Testament Company as well as the New, and that consequently we may look for copies of *Genesis* soon. Is this so? I have not conferred directly with the Old Testament Company.

I proposed to my publishers (who are also yours\*) to republish in one volume "Trench, Ellicott and Lightfoot on Revision," as the best way to introduce the subject before the American public.\*

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[\* See letter to Dr. Lightfoot below, p. 58.]

[Dr. Schaff to Dr. Angus.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Jan. 2, 1872.

*Rev. Dr. Joseph Angus, Regent's Park College.*

MY DEAR DR. ANGUS :

I had just answered a letter of Dean Stanley when I received yours of Dec. 14. The best reply I can make is by inclosing: 1, The printed list of American revisers, with their church connection; 2, an account of a very interesting public meeting in Dr. Washburn's Episcopal church at which Dean Howson spoke at length on Bible Revision.

An Episcopal divine of the highest influence just told me that I could not have made a better selection from that body. Bishop McIlvaine and Bishop Lee were both invited, but modestly declined on the ground of defective critical scholarship, and they approve the selection I made. Dean Howson was present at our meeting of organization, and seemed to be perfectly satisfied with the proceedings.

I understood my commission was to extend over the Old Testament Company as well as the New. Can you not sanction the matter as it is? The list of revisers seems to give universal satisfaction. I have not heard a word of complaint.

We have not yet received a single copy of the revision of *Matthew* or *Genesis*, and can do nothing till they arrive.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Dr. Schaff to Dr. (now Bishop) Lightfoot.]

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Dec. 18, 1871.

*Prof. J. B. Lightfoot, D.D.*

MY DEAR SIR :

I have advised my publishers (Messrs. Charles Scribner, Armstrong & Company) to publish in one volume your own work and the works of Archbishop Trench and Bishop Ellicott on the revision of the Authorized English Version of the Scriptures, with a brief introduction by myself on American co-operation, which has recently been organized in this city, by invitation from the British Committee, as you will see from the inclosed official statement. The publisher thinks the republication will not pay expenses—the market being already supplied with imported copies—but in the interest of the cause of revision he is inclined to undertake it.



Before proceeding further I desire to secure the consent of the esteemed authors on their own terms, and the latest copy of their work, with such emendations and additions as they may wish to make.

I therefore respectfully ask you to favor me with such a corrected copy of your work on revision at your earliest convenience and to transmit it by mail to my address, Bible House, New York. I shall, of course, send you a copy of the reprint as soon as it leaves the press.

I embrace this opportunity to assure you of the high consideration in which I am

Your obedient servant,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[Messrs. Scribner, Armstrong & Company, on reconsideration, declined to publish, but Messrs. Harper & Brothers did publish the revision treatises with Schaff's Introduction, and supplied each of the revisers with a copy. The American Committee afterwards issued three separate editions of the Introduction as a prospectus of the proposed revision, for gratuitous distribution among persons asked to contribute towards the expenses. The book aided the cause of revision among American scholars. This is the reason why this letter is introduced here. Archbishop Trench, Bishop Lightfoot and Bishop Ellicott kindly gave their consent to the republication of their valuable treatises, and Bishop Lightfoot made some suggestions in the proof-sheets of Dr. Schaff's Introduction which were followed. Archbishop Trench's work had been previously reprinted in the United States.]

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[Bishop Ellicott to Dr. Schaff.]

65 PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON, W., April 22, 1872.

DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

I assure you I am very sorry that at present you have not been able to secure on your Company any Bishops. I still, from your letter, have hopes. We at present are in great difficulty. We wish to be on the most cordial and reciprocative terms with you in America, but we have many violently opposed to us here at home who seek every opportunity against us. It, therefore, really would be imprudent for us to take any final step till your Committee is so constituted as to represent (with other Communities) the Episcopal Church distinctly and *acceptably*. The presence of two Bishops or so would at once give the home-public of Church-people the needed confidence.

At present, for the good of the cause generally, I advise suspending matters till we see you in England. We hope, ere long, to be connected with the Universities, and then we shall be stronger in public opinion, and can act more freely.

At present our suspended action is not due to any unfriendliness, but to necessary caution.

I write this letter in my private capacity, and not as the acting chairman of our Company. \* \* \*

Very faithfully yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

[In consequence of the preceding letter of Bishop Ellicott, which explains the delay, Dr. Schaff resumed correspondence with several American Bishops, and succeeded in securing the valuable aid of the venerable Bishop Lee, of the Diocese of Delaware, who is next to the Senior Bishop in age and rank, and second to none of his colleagues on the Episcopal bench in sound learning, judgment, and weight of character. He was one of the most regular members of the New Testament Company, and attended almost every meeting till October, 1880. Other Bishops declined, not, however, from opposition to the work of revision, but chiefly in consequence of the refusal of the House of Bishops at the Baltimore General Convention of 1871, to have any official connection with it. See the action on the Letter of the Bishop of Winchester, pp. 48 and 49.

It is proper that the letters of the Bishops, before and after the preceding letter of Bishop Ellicott, in reply to the invitation, should be published here together, beginning with that of the late Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, who was best known in England and America, and first invited by Dr. Schaff as soon as he received authority to that effect from England. It is not necessary to print the letters of invitation.]

[Bishop McIlvaine, D.D., LL.D., to Dr. Schaff.]

CINCINNATI, May 20, 1871.

REV. AND DEAR SIR :

I have just returned home after a week's absence, having received in the hour of departure your obliging communication on the subject of revision of the Scripture version.

I am glad that as the revision in England was set on foot by a Convocation of the Church of England, and is proceeding mainly under such guidance and control, in constituting an American Committee to co-operate, the work of formation has been given by the British Committee to a *non-Episcopalian*, and to *you*.\* This will greatly help not only the all-sidedness of the work, but in case it shall be desirable to introduce it into substitution for the present version will very materially prepare the way for such result.

I am much indebted to you for the kind estimate you evince of my revisionary qualifications, in doing me so great an honor as to ask me to be on the American Committee. But I am sure you have overestimated my ability. The sort of life a Bishop must

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[\* The italics are the bishop's.]

have led, who for almost forty years has superintended this large diocese, is not favorable to the sharpness and fullness of that sort of learning and that habit of mind which such revision demands. But there is a reason for my asking you to excuse me which admits of no question. The state of *brain-health* is such that I can undertake nothing that would require close investigation, and especially critical study. It seems to have become so established that during the few years, at the very longest, that I may be continued here, I can expect nothing but, by great caution and quietness, to be enabled to do my moderate and untasking work. I shall carefully mind your word "*confidential*."

There is a clergyman of my diocese, Professor of Divinity in the Theological Seminary thereof, at Gambier, an excellent Hebrew and Greek scholar, whose mind has been much given to interpretation, who I think would be a very good member of the Committee—the Rev. J. J. McElhinney, D.D., of Gambier, Ohio.\*

Yours very respectfully,

CHAS. P. McILVAINE.

The REV. DR. SCHAFF.

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[Letter of Bishop Lee, D.D., to Rev. Dr. Washburn.]

WILMINGTON, DEL., Nov. 10, 1871.

MY DEAR DR. WASHBURN :

I am indebted to you for your favor of 7th inst., and for the kind interest you take in the matter of my consenting to act with the Revision Committee. I agree with you in the opinion that our Church ought to be represented in a work of such great importance. The point on which I differ with you is my competence to take this position. It seems to me that it would be assuming on my part a measure of scholarship which I know does not belong to me, and that I should be incurring a greater responsibility than I can well meet. I should not think it right to occupy a merely nominal position in so weighty an enterprise, and one the result of which will be so anxiously awaited by such multitudes of Christian people.

Then I doubt if it would be safe for me to impose a heavier

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[\* Considerations of convenience and economy induced the Committee not to invite scholars living at a great distance from New York, where the monthly meetings were held.]

burden upon my eyes and head than they are now obliged to bear. Has the name of the Rev. Dr. Hare, of Philadelphia, been suggested? My impression is that he is one of our best biblical scholars, and that he might be willing to serve.\*

I have an engagement in New York next Thursday evening, and will try to call on you the day following, but hardly think I can be led to take a different view on the subject.

I remain, very sincerely, yours,

ALFRED LEE.

REV. E. A. WASHBURN, D.D.,  
New York.

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[Dr. Washburn to Bishop Lee.]

NEW YORK, CALVARY RECTORY,  
103 E. 21st St., 11 March, 1872. }

DEAR BISHOP LEE:

I have been requested by Dr. Schaff to write again, and ask your permission to place your name on the list of the American Committee of Revision. It was at your kind suggestion that Dr. Hare was invited; and this choice is most satisfying to all. But you will doubtless remember that you gave me, at that time, good reasons to think, should he be made one of the Old Testament Company, that you would be willing to be added to the number.

It is felt to be more and more important to secure the influence, so far as our Church is concerned, of one of its most honored heads. I may repeat, what I wrote before, that you will be asked to give no more toil in this work of supervision than you choose. All know your load of official duty. But your character, both as a scholar and as a Bishop whom all good men of all parties respect, may be and will be in this day of discord most valuable for the sacred work of revision. May I not beg you, my dear Bishop, for that reason above all; for the doing of a task we must hold to be the highest and holiest in this age of Christendom; for the union of our own Church in this common duty of all Protestant churches, to grant this request?

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[\* Dr. Hare, of the Episcopal Divinity School in Philadelphia, was invited at this suggestion, and accepted. He has been connected with the O. T. Company from the beginning.]

Let me hope, dear Bishop Lee, to receive your affirmative;  
and believe me, with great respect,

Yours very faithfully,

E. A. WASHBURN.

The RT. REV. ALFRED LEE, D.D.,  
Wilmington, Del.

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[Bishop Lee to Dr. Washburn.]

WILMINGTON, DEL., March 18, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. WASHBURN :

I have given renewed consideration to the subject of your letter of 11th inst., and appreciate very highly the kind and favorable expressions it contains. I find it painful to be obliged again to decline a request so strongly urged from such a source.

But I feel that to permit my name to be associated with this great and important work would be taking a position before the Christian community to which I am not entitled and assuming a wrong character. The very limited acquaintance which I made with the Hebrew language in my education for the ministry I have not been able to maintain, owing to a difficulty of vision in former years and to the pressing duties of a later period. I cannot but think those who serve on this Revision Committee ought to be competent judges of the emendations proposed, whether of text or of translation.

Respecting the success of the enterprise I have little doubt. The result of the best scholarship of the Church in England and America will command assent, and the opposition will speedily subside.

With sincere thanks to Rev. Dr. Schaff for his flattering proposal

I remain sincerely yours,

ALFRED LEE.

REV. E. A. WASHBURN, D.D.

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[Dr. Washburn to Bishop Lee.]

CALVARY RECTORY, March 19, 1872.

MY DEAR BISHOP LEE :

I must beg pardon for trespassing anew on your time and patience, but I omitted in my last to add one very weighty sug-

gestion. Your kind letter reminds me of it. It is the wish of Dr. Schaff that you should take part in either division of the work you prefer. If the Greek be more fitted to your taste, or your line of study, the New Testament Company will gladly welcome your co-operation.

I take the liberty to write this, because it meets your own expressed objection. Let me still hope that you will accept the invitation, and believe me

Very cordially yours,  
E. A. WASHBURN.

The RIGHT REV. ALFRED LEE, D.D.

[A few weeks after the date of this letter, in April or May, 1872, Bishop Lee had a personal interview with Dr. Schaff and Dr. Washburn, and consented to serve as a member on the New Testament Company.]

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[Bishop Williams, D.D., to Dr. Schaff.]

MIDDLETOWN, Feb. 26, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

In some correspondence with the Bishop of Winchester I have respectfully declined to take even the very humble part I could take in the now pending revision of the Bible.

Let me assure you it is from no feeling that a revision is not needed, nor yet from any unwillingness to invoke aid in making it from others than members of the Church of England that I have been led to this view of my duty. Quite other grounds than those are the ones I stand on, though I need not trouble you with any details as to their character,

With great respect truly yours,  
J. WILLIAMS.

The REV. DR. SCHAFF.

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[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Williams.]

NEW YORK, March 11, 1872.

MY DEAR BISHOP:

I just received the inclosed letter from the Bishop of St. Andrews,\* and forward it to you without delay, hoping that it may

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[\* Dr. Wordsworth, a member of the British New Testament Company, who urged Bishop Williams to co-operate with the American Committee.]

have the desired effect, in which case you will have the kindness to inform me.

Believe me, with great respect yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

RIGHT REV. DR. WILLIAMS, Bishop of Connecticut.

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[Bishop Williams to Dr. Schaff.]

MIDDLETOWN, March 15, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I thank you heartily for your courteous note, and for sending me the letter of the Bishop of St. Andrews.

My views as to my duty are not, however, changed, and I must still decline the honor you offer me. Some day I hope I may have the opportunity to converse with you, and I think I can convince you that my reasons are sufficient. With most sincere respect I am

Very truly yours,

J. WILLIAMS.

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[Bishop Whittingham, D.D., to Dr. Schaff.]

[Private.]

BALTIMORE, Feb. 24, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I have already, some time ago, declined an invitation from the Bishop of Winchester (late of Oxford) to take part in the revision of the Authorized Version now carrying on by the Convocation of Canterbury, for reasons made known to him—not arising out of any hostility on my part to the revision itself.

Of course, I am unable to accept the gratifying and courteous invitation which you now extend to me.

I am glad of the opportunity thus afforded me of saying how much pleasure I have in any approach to the renewal of well-remembered profitable intercourse enjoyed in former days, and how truly I am

Your faithful and affectionate friend and brother,

W. R. WHITTINGHAM.

REV. DR. SCHAFF.

[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Whittingham.]

NEW YORK, May 7, 1872.

*Bishop Whittingham, D.D., Baltimore.*

MY DEAR BISHOP :

A letter from Bishop Ellicott just received induces me to solicit again your valuable aid in the pending revision movement.

I succeeded in securing Bishop Lee, who, at first, likewise declined, for the New Testament Company, but I have no Bishop for the Old Testament Company. It is of very great importance for the work both in this country and in Great Britain that the Episcopate should be well represented. I know of no one whom for various reasons I would rather have associated with the work than yourself. I respectfully entreat you, therefore, to give us the benefit of your name and influence. We will relieve you of labor as much as possible and send you the proofs for your inspection.

If you join us we shall be able to move along harmoniously and satisfactorily. In every other respect things are ready. One more Bishop, and the composition of the two Companies will be complete and unassailable. We must fall in with this *ecumenical* revision movement as matters now stand, or run the risk of an indefinite multiplication of sectarian versions, as there are already a Baptist and a Unitarian Version.

I expect to sail for England next Saturday, and to confer in person with the revisers. Please answer immediately. If you cannot before I depart, please write to my colleague, Prof. Henry B. Smith, 108 East 25th Street.

Most respectfully yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[Bishop Whittingham to Dr. Schaff.]

BALTIMORE, May 8, 1872.

*Rev. Dr. Schaff.*

MY DEAR BROTHER :

My position in regard of the Authorized Version of the English Bible was not taken without much reflection and some conference with others. However unwilling to decline any proposition urgently addressed by one whom I respect so very highly, I must, therefore, adhere to my resolution to withhold myself from partici-



pation in the work, of which I have not yet seen any occasion to change my views.

Heartily wishing you much usefulness and enjoyment in your contemplated European trip, I am with very hearty affectionate respect

Your friend and brother,

W. R. WHITTINGHAM.

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[Circular letter of Dr. Schaff to Prof. Thos. J. Conant, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Prof. Wm. Henry Green, D.D., Princeton, N. J.; Prof. Geo. Emlen Hare, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.; Rev. Theodore D. Woolsey, D.D., LL. D., New Haven, Conn.; and other members of the Committee.]

NEW YORK, March 16, 1872.

DEAR SIR:

I am happy to inform you that the selection of biblical scholars who are to constitute the American Committee of Revision meets the entire approval of the British Committee as far as it goes. At the same time I am requested by several members of that Committee to select and invite three or four more members with a view to balance and satisfy all denominational interests and wishes, and to report as soon as possible, that the work may then proceed without obstruction. The Church of England members are especially desirous that one or two Bishops should join the Committee. It is not my fault if this has not been done before, as my correspondence will prove. But I will make another effort.

Having passed the responsibility of enlarging the Committee into the hands of the Committee itself, I do not wish to carry out the request of the British Committee without the consent and authority of the American Committee, and as I cannot expect them to come to New York simply for this purpose, I take this mode of asking you and the other members, whether, in your opinion, I shall proceed without delay to select and invite three or four additional members of the Revision Committee, and, if they accept, to notify them of the next meeting of the Committee.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience,

I am truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[Affirmative replies were received from all the members addressed.]

[Dr. Angus to Dr. Schaff.]

COLLEGE, REGENT'S PARK, 22 April, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

Your note has just reached me, and I send at once replies to your queries. I hope you will be able to read them.

I had hoped that before this our first revision would have reached you. Bishop Wordsworth has had Bishop Williams's reply, which is friendly, but he declines serving, on grounds of etiquette, *i.e.*, he does not like to serve when his brethren have decided negatively. (The mistake was in asking them as a *body*.)

We should at our last meeting (just held) have resolved to send you the New Testament revision; but Bishop Ellicott said you were expecting to get a Bishop to join, and so nothing was done. If this refers, as I gather, to *Bishop Lee*, I think it would be well to *press* him to join. It is desirable to take away *all excuse* for not co-operating.

This delay, and the hope of having everything satisfactory, have made the Committee of Convocation slow to bring the matter before the *Old Testament Company*. It is only now formally before them. I hope, however, all will go well. Time and patience are needed when great bodies have to move. If Bishop Lee join the Old Testament Company that will relieve the difficulty: so specially would one Bishop on each.

I shall be glad to report Prof. Warren's appointment: that and Dr. Kendrick's will do good.

We shall be glad to see you when on our side. We had our united gathering of the two Companies and other friends last week. Had I known of your coming I would have moved to put it off till then. It is only rarely that the meetings of the two Companies synchronize. In great haste to catch the mail,

Yours sincerely,  
J. A.

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[Dr. Schaff to Dr. Angus.]

NEW YORK, April 12, 1872.

*Prof. Jos. Angus, D.D., London.*

MY DEAR SIR :

I am happy to inform you that Bishop Lee, of Delaware, with whom I had a long interview yesterday, has consented to join

the New Testament Company of our Revision Committee. This breaks the force of opposition from that quarter, and will satisfy, I hope, the Churchmen of England. Bishop Lee is one of the most worthy and influential of the American Bishops, and his judgment has great weight.

I learnt from Bishop Lee that the House of Bishops, at their late session in Baltimore, declined to take any action on a letter from the Bishop of Winchester inviting their co-operation in the work of revision. This non-action, in connection with the open opposition of a few Bishops, has created the false impression that the Bishops as a body were unfriendly to the movement. He thinks that the scruples of some will be gradually overcome, especially if the Convocation of York should fall in.

I have not received as yet any material to work upon from England, and hence we are at a standstill. I may have the pleasure of seeing you next June or July.

Yours truly,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Ellicott.]

NEW YORK, May 7, 1872.

MY DEAR BISHOP :

Your favor of April 22d has just come to hand. I appreciate your motives for caution and delay.

You will feel considerably relieved if I inform you that Bishop Lee, of Delaware, has at last consented to join the New Testament Company of revisers. He is an accomplished scholar and an admirable Christian gentleman. He is very sound and judicious, and one of the most influential as well as oldest members of the House of Bishops.

From the inclosed extracts of letters of Bishops Whittingham, Williams, and McIlvaine to me, you will be pleased to see their kind feeling towards the movement. What induced them to decline was partly etiquette and partly modesty.

I shall make another effort to secure Bishop Whittingham for the O. T. Company. He is a good scholar and would best represent the High Churchmen among his brethren. If he declines again, I shall try Bishop Huntington of Central New York.\*

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\* [Bishop Huntington was invited through his friend, Prof. Henry B. Smith, D.D., during Dr. Schaff's absence in England, but declined.]

I expect to sail in the City of Brooklyn next Saturday and to proceed first to Scotland. If you will kindly inform me (in care of Mr. T. Clark, publisher, Edinburgh) when and where I can best see you during the early part of June, I shall be happy to confer with you in person on this and other matters.

With great respect yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

The LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

[During his visit to London, in the summer of 1872, Dr. Schaff met the revisers again in the Jerusalem Chamber, and laid before them the results of his labors in the organization of the Committee. He was assured by them that the result was satisfactory, and that material would now be forwarded to him for the work of the American revisers. When at a previous private interview he asked Dean Stanley whether one bishop was sufficient, he promptly replied: "One bishop is quite enough."]

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[Dean Stanley to Dr. Schaff.]

DEANERY, WESTMINSTER, July 17, 1882.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

. . . . I sincerely trust that you will not think of retiring. You deserve, in my opinion, much gratitude and respect for the patience and forbearance with which you have borne our tedious negotiations, and I think that you ought to have whatever credit there may be in carrying on to the end what I trust will be entirely successful.

I have no doubt that all will now go smooth, and by the time you return [from the Continent] I trust that official intelligence will reach you to the same effect. . . .

Yours sincerely,

A. P. STANLEY.

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[Circular Letter of Dr. Schaff to the American Revisers.]

NEW YORK, Sept. 13, 1872.

DEAR SIR:

I have the honor to inform you that, during a recent visit to England, I have succeeded in completing the arrangements for co-operation with the British Committee of Bible Revision, and that confidential copies of the revised version of several books of the Old and New Testaments have been forwarded to me for the use of the members of the American Committee.

You are therefore requested to attend a meeting of the American revisers to be held on Friday, Oct. 4, 1872, at 2 P.M., in my study in the Bible House, for the purpose of completing the organization and commencing actual work. It is especially important that this meeting should be fully attended.

Respectfully yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

REV. DR. WOOLSEY, AND OTHERS.

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### MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE,

OCTOBER 4, 1872.

*The Organization Completed.*

[From the Minutes of the Am. Com.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 4, 1872.

The American Committee on the Revision of the English Authorized Version of the Bible met this day, at 2 P.M., at the study of Dr. Schaff, No. 40 Bible House,\* to complete their organization and make arrangements for the work before them.

Present: Drs. DeWitt, Green, Hare, Strong, Lee, Woolsey, Abbot, Kendrick, Thayer, Schaff, and Day.

Rev. Dr. Woolsey was appointed temporary Chairman. After prayer by Bishop Lee, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Prof. Charles Short and Prof. James Hadley were unanimously elected, and took their seats as members of the Committee.

Letters, or messages, were received from Profs. Krauth, Lewis, Smith, Hackett, Warren, and Riddle, expressing their regret at not being able to be present, with the assurance of their continued readiness to co-operate.

Printed copies of the revision by the British Companies, so far as completed, viz., in the O. T. of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus; in the N. T. of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, were then distributed to the members of the American Companies, with

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[\* The study of Dr. Schaff was afterwards removed to No. 43 in the same building, and this and the adjoining room, No. 44, were used by the two Companies of American revisers till the close of their work. It is proper to remark that the American Bible Society, which owns the Bible House, but rents out many rooms to individuals and religious societies, is in no way responsible for the revision, and is, by its present constitution, restricted to King James's Version.]

the express understanding that they should be regarded and kept as strictly confidential.

After a brief statement by Dr. Schaff in regard to the present state of the work of revision in Great Britain, and the desire of the British Committee to come into immediate connection with the American Committee, the following officers were appointed by ballot:

Rev. Dr. Schaff, *President*.

Prof. George E. Day, *Secretary*.

Prof. Charles Short, *Treasurer*.

It was then *voted*:

1. That the two Companies hold their meetings in New York.
2. That the officers of the Committee be authorized to secure the room No. 42 in the Bible House for one year or less, and to purchase the necessary furniture.
3. That Profs. Short, Day, and Green be a Committee to report upon the means of obtaining the necessary funds for the prosecution of the work of the Committee.

The two Companies then separated for the purpose of organization. On meeting again the O. T. Company reported that they had made choice of Prof. William Henry Green, Chairman; and Prof. George E. Day, Secretary. The N. T. Company reported that they had elected Rev. Dr. Woolsey, Chairman; and Prof. Charles Short, Secretary.\*

The Committee then adjourned to meet at No. 40 Bible House on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 9 A.M.

GEORGE E. DAY,  
*Secretary*.

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[Dr. Schaff to Bishop Ellicott.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 12, 1872.

MY LORD:

I have the honor to inform you that the American Committee of revisers is now fully organized, and has entered upon its work.

A meeting of the revisers was held in my study on the 4th of October. Bishop Lee opened the meeting with prayer. Most of the members were present; the rest sent letters asking to be ex-

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[\* Afterwards Prof. Thayer was also elected Secretary of the N. T. Company and relieved Prof. Short of a part of the work, which became very laborious as the revision proceeded.]

cused for unavoidable absence, but expressing deep interest in the work, and their readiness to co-operate.

I distributed among the members present copies of the revised version of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus, and of the Gospels of St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. Luke, which were intrusted to me by the British Committee for the exclusive use of the American Committee. The confidential character of these documents will be sacredly respected.

The organization was then completed by the unanimous election of the undersigned as President; of Prof. George E. Day, D.D., of Yale College, New Haven, as Corresponding Secretary; and of Prof. Charles Short, LL.D., of Columbia College, New York, as Treasurer.

The Company for the revision of the Old Testament elected Prof. W. Henry Green, D.D., of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, its Chairman, and Prof. Day Recording Secretary. The officers of the New Testament Company are the Rev. Ex-President Theodore Woolsey, D.D., LL.D., of New Haven, Chairman, and Prof. Charles Short, Recording Secretary.

Both Companies agreed to hold periodical meetings every month. The next meeting will begin Nov. 2. We have rented and furnished a room in the Bible House, and shall soon take measures to provide for the necessary expenses.

As President of the whole Committee it is my duty according to Art. III. of our constitution to conduct the official correspondence with the British revisers.

It is in discharge of this duty that I write this letter.

I look forward with great pleasure to a continuance of the correspondence with our brethren in England.

I may add that our recent meeting was a very harmonious one, and gives good promise of earnest and vigorous co-operation with the British Committee. We apprehend no material difference, and feel confident that so noble and holy a work, which engages the united labors and prayers of Christian scholars from all branches of Anglo-Saxon Christendom, will be crowned with the blessing of the Divine Author of the Scriptures.

I assure you and the members of the Company you represent of my profound regard and best wishes and prayers for the success of your work.

Truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL,  
Chairman of the New Test. Comp. of Revision.

[Bishop Ellicott to Dr. Schaff.]

GLOUCESTER, Nov. 21, 1872.

DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

I am requested by the New Testament Company to thank you for your kind note and to express their sincere pleasure at hearing so excellent an account of your progress.

The Company present their kind compliments and best wishes to the distinguished scholars over whom you preside.

Very faithfully yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

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[Bishop Ellicott to Dr. Schaff.]

GLOUCESTER, Dec. 24, 1872.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

My friends forming our Company desire me to thank you kindly for your note, and rejoice in your progress.

I am further to tell you that we did send two extra copies. If they did not reach you, please kindly send word.

I am also to mention that we do not issue copies to any save actual members (working) of the Company.\* . . .

With kind regards,

Very sincerely yours,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

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## LIST OF THE AMERICAN REVISION COMMITTEE.

*As finally constituted.*

This list includes those members who were subsequently elected by the Committee themselves to fill vacancies.

### GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., LL.D., President.

GEORGE E. DAY, D.D., Secretary.

### (1) *Old Testament Company:*

Professor WM. HENRY GREEN, D.D., LL.D. (Chairman), Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

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[\* This refusal made void the proposed election of Honorary Members from the more distant sections of the country.]



Professor GEORGE E. DAY D.D. (Secretary), Divinity School of Yale College, New Haven, Conn.

Professor CHARLES A. AIKEN, D.D., Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

The Rev. T. W. CHAMBERS, D.D., Collegiate Reformed Dutch Church, New York.

Professor THOMAS J. CONANT, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Professor JOHN DEWITT, D.D., Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, N. J.

Professor GEORGE EMLEN HARE, D.D., LL.D., Divinity School, Philadelphia.

Professor CHARLES P. KRAUTH, D.D., LL.D., Vice-Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Professor TAYLER LEWIS, LL.D., Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.

Professor CHARLES M. MEAD, D.D., Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass.

Professor HOWARD OSGOOD, D.D., LL.D., Theological Seminary, Rochester, N. Y.

Professor JOSEPH PACKARD, D.D., Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Va.

Professor CALVIN E. STOWE, D.D., Hartford, Conn.

Professor JAMES STRONG, S. T. D., Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J.

Professor C. A. VAN DYCK, D.D., M.D., Beirut, Syria (Advisory Member on questions of Arabic).

NOTE.—The American Old Testament Company lost by death Prof. TAYLER LEWIS, d. 1877; Dr. KRAUTH, Philadelphia, d. Jan. 2, 1883; and Dr. STOWE, by resignation.

## (2) *New Testament Company.*

Ex-President T. D. WOOLSEY, D.D., LL.D. (Chairman), New Haven, Conn.

Professor J. HENRY THAYER, D.D. (Secretary), Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass.

Professor EZRA ABBOT, D.D., LL.D., Divinity School, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

The Rev. J. K. BURR, D.D., Trenton, N. J.

President THOMAS CHASE, LL.D., Haverford College, Pa.

Chancellor HOWARD CROSBY, D.D., LL.D., New York.

Professor TIMOTHY DWIGHT, D.D., Divinity School of Yale College, New Haven, Conn.

Professor JAMES HADLEY, LL.D., Yale College, New Haven, Conn.

Professor HORATIO B. HACKETT, D.D., LL.D., Theological Seminary, Rochester, N. Y.

Professor CHARLES HODGE, D.D., LL.D., Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

Professor A. C. KENDRICK, D.D., LL.D., University of Rochester, N. Y.

The Right Rev. ALFRED LEE, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Delaware.

Professor MATTHEW B. RIDDLE, D.D., Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn.

Professor PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., LL.D., Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Professor CHARLES SHORT, LL.D. (Secretary), Columbia College, New York.

Professor HENRY BOYNTON SMITH, D.D., LL.D., Union Theological Seminary, New York.

The Rev. E. A. WASHBURN, D.D., LL.D., Calvary Church, New York.

NOTE.—The American New Testament Company lost by death Prof. JAMES HADLEY (who attended the first session), d. 1873; Dr. HENRY BOYNTON SMITH (who attended one session, and resigned from ill health), d. 1877; Dr. HORATIO B. HACKETT, d. 1876; Dr. CHARLES HODGE (who never attended the meetings, but corresponded with the Committee), d. 1878; Rev. Dr. WASHBURN, d. Feb. 2, 1881 (after the completion of the N. T. Revision); and Rev. Dr. BURR, d. April 24, 1882. Dr. G. R. CROOKS and Dr. W. F. WARREN, who accepted the original appointment, found it impossible to attend any meetings and resigned.

A number of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and professors of sacred learning, who had been invited to join the American Committee at its first organization in 1871, declined, from want of time or other reasons, but expressed interest in the work, and confidence in its success. Among these may be mentioned Bishops McIlvaine, Whittingham, and Williams, Dr. Whedon (Methodist), Dr. Nevin (Reformed), Dr. Shedd (Presbyterian).

## MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Co-OPERATING WITH THE AMERICAN BIBLE REVISION COMMITTEE.

This Committee was appointed in May, 1875, at the suggestion of several laymen, with a view to relieve the revisers of financial care and responsibility. The list includes all the members who have at any time been connected with the Committee.

Hon. NATHAN BISHOP, LL.D., Chairman,\* New York.

ANDREW L. TAYLOR, Treasurer, “

Rev. Wm. Adams, D.D., LL.D., “

Rev. Thos. D. Anderson, D.D., “

A. S. Barnes, “

Alexander Brown, Philadelphia.

James M. Brown, New York.

William A. Cauldwell, New York.

Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, “

Rev. H. Dyer, D.D., “

John Elliott, “

Hon. E. L. Fancher, LL.D., New York.

Prof. Wm. Gammell, LL.D., Providence, R. I.

John C. Havemeyer, Yonkers, N. Y.

Morris K. Jesup, New York.

Francis T. King, Baltimore.

Rev. Henry C. Potter, D.D., LL.D., New York.

Howard Potter, “

Elliott F. Shepard, Esq., “

John Sloane, “

Roswell Smith,† “

Rev. Richard S. Storrs, D.D., LL.D., Brooklyn.

Charles Tracy, Esq., New York.

John B. Trevor, “

Alex. Van Rensselaer (d. May, 1878).

S. D. Warren, Boston.

Norman White, New York.

F. S. Winston, “

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\* After the death of Dr. Bishop in Aug., 1880, Judge Fancher, of New York, was elected in his place.

† Resigned, March, 1881.



## **Part Second.**

**CORRESPONDENCE OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE  
WITH THE ENGLISH COMPANIES.**



## CORRESPONDENCE OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE WITH THE ENGLISH COMPANIES.

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### FIRST ACTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

[From the Minutes, pp. 26, 27.]

NEW YORK, Saturday, May 31, 1873.

The subject of the practical relations of the American revisers to the English was brought up, especially as respects the influence of our suggestions upon their final action. A general and decided expression of opinion was made, resulting in a vote of instructions to Dr. Schaff, as follows :

“That Dr. Schaff, on his approaching visit to England confer with our English brethren, especially in reference to the following points: What weight shall the opinions of the American Committee have in determining the revision; and that he be authorized to intimate that we expect to have a positive and well-defined weight in the decision: and farther (if he shall find it necessary), that he request them to appoint those of their number who may come to America in October to act with power as a committee of conference with us on this subject.”

Adjourned to meet in New Haven, July 8, 1873, at 7.30 P. M.

J. H. THAYER, *Sec. pro tem*

Attest:

GEORGE E. DAY,  
*Sec.*

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### RESPONSE OF THE BRITISH COMPANIES.

#### 1. *Of the Old Testament Company.*

At a meeting of the O. T. Company of revisers, held in the Chapter Library, Westminster, on Thursday, July 17, 1873, the following resolution was passed :

"That this Company have heard, with great pleasure, from Dr. Schaff, of the cordiality with which the American revisers have entered into the work and of the progress they have already made.

"That they are prepared to give the most careful consideration to any suggestions that may be made to them by the American Committee, but are of opinion that by the original constitution, as well as by the terms of their agreement with the University Presses, they have not the power to admit to a share in the right of voting any but the members of their own Company.

"That it is their desire to recognize, in the fullest way compatible with this limitation, the labors of the American Committee, but that they feel it would be premature, in the present stage of their proceedings, to settle the details of an arrangement by which that recognition could be adequately secured."

## *2. Of the New Testament Company.*

At a meeting of the New Testament Company, held in the Jerusalem Chamber, on Wednesday, July 16, 1873, it was resolved unanimously :

"That the New Testament Company learn with lively satisfaction, from Dr. Schaff, that the American Bible Revision Committee are making such favorable progress, and that the results arrived at by the two bodies are so much in accordance. The N. T. Company are glad to have this opportunity of repeating the assurance that they will attach great weight and importance to all the suggestions of the American Committee, and in each case take into account the unanimity or preponderance of opinion with which the suggestions have been made: but they are precluded by the fundamental rules of their constitution, as well as by the terms of their agreement with the University Presses, from admitting any persons, not members of their body, to take part in their decisions.

"The N. T. Company desire, finally, to express their confident hope that no ultimate difficulties will be found in adjusting any points in which the American and English Companies may differ in their respective decisions."



ACTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON THE  
PRECEDING RESOLUTIONS.

(From the Minutes, p. 83 seq.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 30, 1873.

. . . Dr. Schaff, having returned from Europe, but not being able, on account of other engagements, to be present, sent the following resolutions of the two British Companies—that of the O. T. Company from the Bishop of Ely; that of the N. T. Company through Bishop Ellicott,—to the effect that, while purposing to give careful attention to any suggestions made by the American Committee, they do not regard themselves as able to admit to the right of voting any but the members residing in Great Britain.

[Now follow the resolutions, printed above.]

After remarks by several members of the Committee, Drs. Crosby, Hare, Aiken, Washburn, and Day were requested to prepare a paper expressive of our views, to be presented to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Adjourned to that hour.

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1873.

Met according to adjournment at 9 A. M. Dr. Schaff in the chair. Prayer was offered by Dr. Stowe. The paper prepared by the committee appointed yesterday was presented and discussed, and a verbal statement was made by Dr. Schaff of his conference with the British Committee.

At this point the discussion was suspended in order to allow Dr. Dorner, Professor in the University of Berlin, now in attendance upon the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance in New York, and a member of the German Commission engaged in the revision of Luther's Version, to be introduced. He gave an interesting account, in German, of the progress already made, and expressed a desire for a mutual correspondence between the American and German Committees.

A committee, consisting of Drs. Woolsey, Day, Riddle, and Green, was appointed to prepare a suitable paper in response to this invitation, and to report the same at the present meeting.

The Rev. Dr. Angus, a member of the British Committee, who had been invited to meet with us, then gave a statement of their views in regard to the nature of our co-operation with them; after which the paper which had been prepared, after some modifications, was unanimously adopted as follows:

"The American Bible Revision Committee, having received a reply from both Companies of the English Committee to their interrogatory concerning the weight that their voice would have in the final decisions of the revision work, to the effect that the American Committee were expected to have no vote in the said decisions, would respectfully suggest to the English Committee that the Revised Scriptures are designed for the entire English speaking people, nearly one half of whom are resident in America, and that these so resident will naturally look to the American Committee as their authority in the use of the revision. In view of this fact, bearing so largely upon the results of the revision labor, in the uniform reception of the completed revision, the American Committee would urge it as its well-considered opinion that the labors of the two Committees severally should have their appropriate influence in the completed work.

"This proposition is made with a view to the widest circulation of the Revised Scriptures, and in the belief that two separate revisions would operate unfortunately for the interests of Protestant Christianity.

"The American Committee feel also impelled to declare that, in accepting the invitation of the English Committee, after its enlargement in Great Britain, to co-operate with them in the revision of the English version of the Scriptures, and in adopting the same principles and rules, they did so with the understanding that the members of the American Companies were invited to a joint responsibility with the members of the English Companies, and regard the recognition of this relation as most important for the success of the undertaking.

"They would also trust that no agreement with the University Presses, made subsequently to the organization of the American Committee, may stand as a hinderance to so important a union.

"They therefore cannot but hope that such an interpretation may be given to the rules as will make the adoption of any result dependent upon a full and formal co-operation of the American Committee.

"*Voted*, That this paper, signed by the chairman and secretary, be transmitted to the British Companies.

"*Voted*, That Drs. Washburn, Crosby, and Aiken be requested to confer with Dr. Angus and other members of the British Committee who may attend the meetings of the Evangelical Alliance in regard to possible modes of responsible co-operation with the English Committee, and report the result at the next meeting."

FURTHER ACTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE,  
March 26, 1875.

(From the Minutes, p. 66.)

The Bible Revision Committee at its session held March 26, 1875, at No. 42 Bible House, New York, after full discussion, unanimously passed the following resolution :

Whereas we have now finished and transmitted to our English brethren the revision of a large part of the Pentateuch and the four Gospels, and enabled them to form a correct estimate of the character and merits of our co-operation with them in the joint work ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the President of the American Revision Committee be authorized and requested to reopen correspondence and personal conference (if convenient) with the British Committee on the unsettled question of our precise status as to the authorship of the joint revision, and to recall to them our previous expectation of a "positive and well-defined weight in the final determination of the text of the Revised Scriptures." (See our instructions to Dr. Schaff, May 31, 1873.)

The President shall represent to our British brethren that we originally accepted the trust and entered upon our labors under the impression that we were fellow-revisers, and not simply advisers, and that we feel that much of the success of the enterprise with the American public depends upon a clear setting forth of this principle. The President will also express to our British brethren our sense of their courtesy and frankness in their intercourse with us, our hearty reciprocation of the kind wishes conveyed to us in letters from both the British Companies, and our fervent desire that by the blessing of Almighty God we may happily conclude in fraternal harmony the important work in which we are now engaged.

HOWARD CROSBY, *Secretary pro tem.*

[Letter of Dr. Schaff to Bishop Ellicott.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE. }  
NEW YORK, April 17, 1875. }

*The Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol,*  
*Chairman of the N. T. Revision Company.*

MY DEAR BISHOP :

I have the honor to transmit to you the inclosed action of our

joint Revision Committee, which I send also to the Chairman of the Old Testament Company.

The Committee desire me to visit England this summer and to explain to your Companies our present situation, and the grounds of our request. But as the May meetings of your two Companies synchronize, and as I cannot possibly leave my post before the middle of May, perhaps not before June, I forward the document in advance, that you may take it into joint consideration if you think proper to do so.

I am quite confident of a result that shall be satisfactory to both parties. You will find us quite reasonable in all minor details.

Our notes on the Gospel of St. John are now in the hands of the printer, and will be forwarded to Mr. Troutbeck in a few days. We have begun Acts.

Hoping to see you during the coming summer, I am,

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[A similar letter was sent to the Bishop of Winchester, as Chairman of the Old Testament Company.]

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[Dr. Schaff to Canon Troutbeck.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE,  
NEW YORK, May 1, 1875. }

MY DEAR SIR :

I beg leave to send you by next steamer thirty copies of our Notes on St. John for distribution among the members of your New Testament Company. We are now in session and have just reached Acts, ch. viii., first revision. I will send an extra copy to the Bishop of Gloucester.

The Committee have directed me to reopen negotiations with your Committee concerning our precise relation, and wish me to do it by personal conference. Perhaps I may leave before the close of this month, and see you this summer.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

CANON JOHN TROUTBECK,  
Sec. N. T. Revis. Comp.,  
4 Dean's Yard, Westminster.

[Letter of Dr. Day to Dr. Schaff.]

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 12, 1875.

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

Please find inclosed a certified copy of the resolution in regard to our relations with our British brethren. I fully agree with you that more can be done in the delicate relations in which we are placed by personal conference with the British Companies, than by correspondence, and am glad that you have decided to cross the ocean again. May He who rules the winds and waves watch over you and bring you back in safety and health.

I am not very sanguine, however, as to the result, and contemplate quite distinctly the possibility that we may be obliged to go on with our work alone. \* \* \* \* \*

Your friend truly,

GEORGE E. DAY.

[Letter of Dr. Schaff to Dr. Day.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, }  
NEW YORK, May 14, 1875. }

MY DEAR DR. DAY:

I thank you for your letter and copy of resolution just received. I fully agree with the sentiments you express concerning the negotiations with the British Committee. They require extreme delicacy and prudence—much more than I possess. Yet I shall do the best I can for the Committee. It is simply impossible to do it by mere correspondence, and I go at my own expense. The Finance Committee which I succeeded in organizing will not move till they learn the result of these negotiations—which will materially affect their mode of operation. But I am sure they will help in any case.

I send you, inclosed, a letter to the Committee, which please lay before them at the next meeting.

I also inclose a letter from Mr. Wright, Secretary of the O. T. Company, which ought to be read before the Committee, as well as before the O. T. Company. Please keep and return it to me for my correspondence.

If the O. T. Company have finished Leviticus and Numbers, they had better send them directly per express without waiting for my return.

I have just turned over to Mr. Taylor, the new Treasurer, the balance of my special collections of the last few days, which will enable the Committee to go on without further aid till the end of the year. I have also handed him all business papers and lists of donors, etc., and feel greatly relieved. I worked hard on these uncongenial business details for the last weeks, and I feel exhausted. It is high time for me to get away. I have not yet begun to pack, but shall positively sail to-morrow, D. V.

Most truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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### ACTION OF THE BRITISH COMPANIES ON THE AMERICAN RESOLUTION, 1875.

[Extract from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the New Testament Company, on Tuesday, 11th May, 1875.]

A joint meeting of the two Companies was held in the Jerusalem Chamber, at one o'clock, when the following resolution was passed, and ordered to be communicated to Dr. Schaff, as representing the American Committee:—

“The two English Companies having taken into consideration the resolution of the American Bible Revision Committee dated March 23, 1875, and communicated to them by Dr. Schaff; and having also carefully considered their previous correspondence on this subject, and especially their resolutions of July 17, 1873—namely, ‘That this Company (the Old Testament Company) have heard with great pleasure from Dr. Schaff of the cordiality with which the American revisers have entered into the work, and of the progress they have already made; that they are prepared to give the most careful consideration to any suggestion that may be made to them by the American Committee; but are of opinion that, by their original constitution, as well as by the terms of their agreement with the University Presses, they have not the power to admit to a share in the right of voting any but the members of their own Company; that it is their desire to recognize in the fullest way compatible with this limitation the labors of the American Committee; but they feel it would be premature in the present stage of their proceedings to settle the details of an arrangement by which that recognition could be adequately secured.’ ‘That the New Testament Company learn from Dr. Schaff, with lively satis-

faction, that the American Bible Revision Committee are making such favorable progress, and that the results arrived at by the two bodies are so much in accordance. The New Testament Company are glad to have this opportunity of repeating the assurance that they will attach great weight and importance to all the suggestions of the American Committee, and in each case take into account the unanimity and preponderance of opinion with which the suggestions have been made; but they are precluded by the fundamental rules of their constitution, as well as by the terms of their agreement with the University Presses, from admitting any persons not members of their body to take part in their decisions. The New Testament Company desire finally to express their confident hope that no ultimate difficulties will be found in adjusting any points in which the American and English Companies may differ in their respective decisions:—it was resolved

“That the English Companies are unable to depart from the above resolutions, but that they will continue to give the greatest possible weight to every suggestion of the American Committee, and will also endeavor, whether by conference or otherwise, to arrive at an agreement upon any points of importance as to which the English Companies and the American Committee may not be fully agreed.”

J. TROUTBECK, Secretary.

### A PLEA FOR THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

*Abstract of two addresses made by DR. SCHAFF, on behalf of the American Committee, before the New Testament Company (the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol in the chair), in the Jerusalem Chamber, June 15, 1875; and before the Old Testament Company (the Lord Bishop of Winchester in the chair), in the Chapter Library, Westminster, July 8, 1875.*

I have the honor to appear before you a second time, on behalf of the American Revision Committee, to arrange the terms of a final settlement of the text of the Revised Scriptures, and our legitimate status in this work.

At a joint meeting of the two Companies held in May last, before my arrival in this country, you have again decidedly, though very courteously and respectfully, declined our request, being shut up to this course by your original constitution and your contract with the University Presses. Notwithstanding the apparent failure of my mission, I entertain a confident hope that we shall be able to arrive at a satisfactory settlement without any sacrifice of right, consistency, or dignity by either party. If I thought otherwise I would not venture to address you.

We have now labored together for several years with a degree of harmony which is most remarkable, and promises certain success to our work in both hemispheres. We are fully agreed in the fundamental principle of revision, which is, to raise the Authorized Version, within the limits of its idiom and vocabulary, to

the standard of the best biblical and English scholarship of the present day, so that, with very many changes and improvements, it may still read like the venerable and familiar old Book, and retain all its flavor and sacred associations. We are also agreed in the execution of this principle to the extent that we have adopted, I may venture to say, nine-tenths of your changes in reading and rendering, and you have adopted, as I am happy to learn, a large proportion of our suggestions. Our intercourse and correspondence have been uniformly marked by Christian courtesy and kindness which it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge before you.

The only serious difficulty between us is the proper status of the American Committee in the final work. It would be a sin before God and a disgrace before the Christian world if we should allow a question of this kind to endanger the prosecution and success of a work in which every reader of the Bible feels an interest. But this cannot and shall not be.

Permit me, courteously and frankly, to explain the *nature* and *grounds* of the American position, and to discuss the possible *modes* of settlement :—

I. The question before us is, whether the Americans are simply *advisors*, or fellow-revisers and fellow-authors, with corresponding claims and responsibilities. You seem to maintain the former, we the latter. Practically, you recognize us as fellow-revisers, but, in form, you exclude us by your resolution from your Committee, and allow us not a single vote on any question, although we number nearly thirty. I wish you to consider that we do not claim an *equal* share, but only a *just* and *equitable* share in determining the final text. It is not a question of equality of numbers or merit, but simply a question of right and principle. We cheerfully concede to you the primacy of honor in originating this great work, and all the rights of a majority. We have given you practical proof of our high regard for your eminent scholarship and abundant qualifications for the great and difficult task which rests mainly on your shoulders. We ask you only to recognize, in form, our *actual* share and title in the joint work as far as it is already or may yet be adopted by you, and to do this in a manner that shall be available in law and in business in case we should determine to secure an American publisher for the Revised Version.

II. We make this claim first, on the ground of *justice*. The American revisers are regularly and fully organized in two Companies, precisely as the English Companies, and are composed of about thirty biblical scholars of the leading churches and theological institutions of a nation of forty millions : they meet regularly every month, at considerable sacrifice of time and comfort ; they go through the whole critical and exegetical process ; they give you the results of mature deliberation with all the weight and authority that attach to a representative body ; they pay their own expenses, and expect no compensation ; upon their exertions mainly will depend the success of the new revision in America. Why then should this whole American Committee be deprived of the right which every single member of the English Committee possesses, and be left out of account in the final decision ? It would be unreasonable to continue such an expensive machinery for ten or more years simply for giving advice.

We make this claim, secondly, as a matter of *honor*, in behalf of the American people, who have inherited from their British ancestors a spirit of self-respect and manly independence that will never consent to occupy a subordinate and humiliating position. The Americans have the same interest in the Bible, our common inheritance, and hail this opportunity to discharge a part of their gratitude to England by making the good and precious book still better and dearer to the



Anglo-Saxon race. They will continue to support our Committee liberally if we are properly recognized as fellow-laborers; but not otherwise. This matter of national feeling and self-respect is not to be lightly set aside, even in so sacred a cause. Only reverse the position; and need I ask you whether high-minded Englishmen would think for a moment of accepting a subordinate position in the revision and publication of their own Bible, or show any zeal for the introduction into their churches of a foreign version to which they had merely contributed valuable advice? Even Scotland would take little or no interest in your work if she was not properly represented by a number of her ablest scholars, with full power to vote on every question.

We make this claim, thirdly, on grounds of *expediency*. Without a right and title to authorship, we have no heart to ask our friends for further contributions towards our expenses. Without such title properly recognized by you as the principal authors, and by the University Presses as the sole owners for England, we can get no copyright in the United States. And without copyright we can get no publisher. Your own English edition will then, in the absence of an international copyright, be exposed to literary piracy and ruinous competition outside of Her Majesty's dominions.

And this is the reason why we feel sure that the University Presses will not hesitate to recognize our share in the authorship as far as it goes. For thereby they will enable us not only to secure a copyright, but also to protect the purity and integrity of the revised text in the United States. We could buy from them duplicates of their plates, which they already have offered to us on certain terms, for publication in the States; they would still be free to export their editions to America (which we *would not* hinder even if we could); and no publisher in either country could injure the one or the other party by an irresponsible reprint. For it will be a *joint copyright for joint authorship in a joint work*. Copyright in a part of the work would cover copyright in the whole. By an express understanding between the British and American publishers, and a proper notice in the Preface, absolute protection can be secured on both sides of the Atlantic. So we have been advised by American lawyers well versed on the subject of copyright.

III. But now we come to the practical question: How can we come to an understanding consistent both with your position and with the American claim? I do not ask you to recede an inch from your position, but only to consent to a supplementary action, which is left open by your own expressed desire to arrive at a full agreement with us, "whether by conference or otherwise."

The following plans suggest themselves to my mind as feasible, and which I beg leave respectfully to submit to your judgment:—

1. Adopt some members of the American Companies into your Companies, and allow them a certain number of votes by their printed notes. You will at once raise the objection that you cannot allow absent Americans to vote when you refuse this right to your own absent members. But the physical impossibility of our presence on account of the intervening ocean would, perhaps, justify an exception. And, to avoid any semblance of invidiousness, we might adopt a similar number of English members into the American Companies, with the same right of voting by letter.

2. A Conference Committee, at the close of the work, to sit in London (or in New York if you will honor us with your presence and give us the pleasure of showing you a most cordial and liberal hospitality), and to vote with power, according to your own rules, on the remaining differences. But this method is expensive, and would considerably protract the work.

3. Independent co-operation as heretofore, with simultaneous publication of two editions, one for England and one for the United States, with possible variations on minor points, which might be adjusted at some future time. This I prefer, upon the whole, and I beg leave, therefore, to submit it to you in writing with liberty to shape it as you deem best. (See p. 93.)

This plan, it is true, will involve, probably, a departure from the original plan of issuing one and the same text on both sides of the Atlantic; but it has the great advantage of leaving both Committees free to do full justice to the dialectic and provincial tastes and peculiarities of the two nations they represent. Moreover, it does not necessarily exclude the other two proposals, which may be combined with it, reserving only the right of final decision and publication to each of the two Committees.

The differences, after having been minimized by mutual conference between the two Committees or sub-Committees (as may be deemed best), would be so few and intrinsically so unimportant as to strengthen rather than weaken confidence in the revision. They would be of far less moment than the textual variations of the Greek Testament, or even the *Keris* in the Hebrew Bible. In some respects we are more conservative than the British Companies, in other respects we are more progressive. In many cases we have gone back to the Old Version for rythmical or other reasons (as in the rendering of the Greek aorist, which sometimes seems to require the English perfect), but we very seldom differ in the readings, and in the grammatical sense of a word or passage as far as it affects the translation, with which alone we have to do.

From our past experience, the differences of the two editions would be chiefly of three kinds:

(a) A few archaic forms (such as *which* and *the which* for *who*, *be* for *are*, *wot* and *wist* for *know* and *knew*, *to prevent* for *to go before*, or *precede*, *to let* for *to hinder*), which your Committee would retain in deference to English taste and liturgical usage; while the American editions of the Book of Common Prayer have anticipated the change. Archaisms which are not contrary to modern grammar, or misleading, will be cheerfully retained by the American Committee.

(b) The renderings of Hebrew, Greek and Roman measures, weights and coins where the Americans would insist upon closer renderings (as in the case of *penny* for *denarius*) or national equivalents (at least, in the margin).

(c) The restoring of distinctions in the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures which are obliterated in our Authorized Version, as the difference between *Sheol* or *Hades* (the realm of the dead) and *Gehenna* (the place of torment), between the (one) *devil* and the (many) *demons* or evil spirits.\*

The first and second class of variations would at once be appreciated by the common people in both countries as perfectly innocent and natural, and will no more disturb their devotion than differences of spelling and pronunciation. The third class is more important, but would be explained and made harmless by marginal notes. For in nearly all these cases the Americans have simply introduced the more literal marginal reading of the British Companies into the text, and explained the original Greek or Hebrew word (if retained) by a marginal note.

The third arrangement would not interfere with our getting duplicates of the

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[\* It is proper to state that some of these points, as the important distinction between *Hades* and *Hell*, have been adjusted in the course of negotiations by the concessions of the British Committee, or rectified by marginal explanations.]

English plates. The changes could as well be made in England. A Preface in both editions would state the differences. After a few years of trial the Churches may demand a compromise, and a restoration of one text for both countries. For, after all, our work will be subject to the judgment of the Christian public, for whose benefit it is intended. By its own merits, and by the decision of the churches, it will stand or fall.

I now beg you, in the name of the American Committee, in the interest of the great and good work we have in charge, to take this whole matter into renewed and final consideration; and, if none of the three proposals commends itself to your judgment, to devise a better plan. Give us the substance of what we feel we have a right to ask as our share in this joint work, and there is no reason to fear that we shall fall out about the mode.

If your last action is to be final, the American Committee will be paralyzed, and may be forced to the unfortunate alternative of either disbanding the work, or carrying on an independent revision of their own. This, of course, we have a perfect right to do. But we greatly prefer, in the interest of the Bible and of international good-will, to co-operate with you to the very end, and to unify our labors as far as possible and desirable. If only a proper legal status in this joint work is secured to us, we pledge our most hearty co-operation till the Anglo-American revision is completed and introduced into the Churches, that it may carry on, with increased force, as far as the language of Shakespeare and Milton resounds, its holy mission of glory to God and peace and good-will among men.

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#### ADJUSTMENT SUGGESTED BY DR. SCHAFF TO THE ENGLISH COMPANIES.

The British and American Committees continue to co-operate as heretofore, as independent Committees, with equal rights and responsibilities in reference to the two countries with which they are severally connected, and with the right on each side of synchronously publishing a common Revision of the Holy Scriptures, with the reservation of such differences as it may be found in the sequel impracticable to remove.

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#### SETTLEMENT PROPOSED BY THE ENGLISH COM- PANIES.

Copy of resolution passed by the Old Testament Revision Company, in the Chapter Library of the Deanery of Westminster, July 8, 1875:

“That the Old Testament Company, in their desire to recognize the co-operation of the American Committee in the work of revision, would suggest that the practical end of expressing this

recognition, and at the same time of securing the copyright of the Revised Version both in England and America, will be best answered by the appointment of certain members of the American Committee as members of the English Revision Companies and *vice versa*."

W. ALDIS WRIGHT, *Secretary*.

Resolution passed by the New Testament Revision Company, Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, July 15, 1875 :

"That the New Testament Company of Revisers of the Authorized Version are desirous to see an American copyright in the Revised Version secured for the American Revision Committee. That for this purpose they are willing to concur in the plan suggested in the resolution of the Old Testament Company, subject to the following conditions :

"(1.) That they receive the assurance of competent lawyers in America and England that the effect of co-operation, such as is proposed, would be to secure to the American Committee the benefit of the copyright of the work in America.

"(2.) That the number of American members to be thus added, be definitely limited to two for each Company.

"(3.) That the appointment of the American members be made by the English Companies in the same manner and on the same conditions as other additional members.

"(4.) That the American members so to be co-optated shall have no claim upon the funds agreed to be paid by the English Presses ; it being understood on the other hand that the members of the English Companies receive no share of funds which may be raised in America, or which may arise from the American copyright.

"(5.) That the whole arrangement obtain the express consent of the two University Presses."

J. TROUTBECK, *Secretary*.

## ACCEPTANCE OF THE ENGLISH PROPOSITION BY THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

[From the Minutes of the American Committee, p. 77 seq.]

At the regular monthly meeting of the American Bible Revision Committee, held at their rooms in the Bible House, New York, September 24, 1875, the President of the Committee,

Rev. Philip Schaff, D.D., gave an account of his conferences with the British Revision Companies, and presented the resolution passed by the English Old Testament Company on the 8th of July, 1875, and that passed by the English New Testament Company on the 15th of the same month; upon which the following paper was prepared, and at an adjourned meeting the following day was adopted, viz.:

"The American Committee has heard with great satisfaction of the action of the British Companies, by which the American Companies are recognized as fellow-revisers, and this recognition is expressed by the resolution to elect certain members of the American Companies into the British Companies (the American Companies making a like election of members of the British Companies): and hereby records its full acceptance of this plan of unification in the great work we are sustaining in common.

"The American Committee takes this opportunity to convey its thanks to the brethren in Great Britain for their courtesy to its representative on his late visit in their behalf, and for their considerate regard for the interest by him represented."

The following resolution was also adopted (p. 83):

WHEREAS, it is of the utmost importance that the nearest practicable approach to unanimity among those engaged in the revision should be secured:

"*Resolved*, That we request the British Companies, after receiving and acting upon our emendations, to send a list of any differences which may remain to the American Companies for their reconsideration; with the understanding that if differences after such reconsideration should still exist, a special joint Committee of the British and American Companies shall be appointed, who shall report the results of their deliberations for the final decision of the several Companies."

GEORGE E. DAY, *Secretary*.

[These resolutions were transmitted by the President to the Lord Bishop of Winchester, Chairman of the Old Testament Revision Company, and to the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, Chairman of the New Testament Revision Company. The further proceedings and final results are embodied in the correspondence with the University Presses. See next Part, especially p. 122.]



# **Part Third.**

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES  
OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE.**





## CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE.

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### CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES.

[Letter of Dr. Cartmell to Dr. Schaff.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE,  
CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 7, 1874. }

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR :

The Delegates of the Oxford Clarendon Press and the Syndics of this Press have carefully considered your letter of June 30, 1873\*, in regard to the publication of the Revised Version of the Holy Scriptures in the United States of America.

We are disposed to consider favorably your suggestion, that a duplicate set of stereotype plates of the Revised Version should be furnished for joint publication in the United States; and we shall be glad to be informed whether it will meet your views to make an offer for such privilege.

Believe me, reverend and dear sir,

Very respectfully and truly yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

THE REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

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### ACTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

(From the Minutes, Feb. 27, 1874.)

The Chairman then read a letter from Dr. James Cartmell, President of the Cambridge Syndics, expressing the willingness of the Delegates of the Clarendon Press at Oxford, and the Syndics of the Cambridge Press, to consider favorably the proposal to furnish to the American Committee, on suitable terms, a duplicate set of the stereotype plates of the Revised Version.

Voted, that Dr. Schaff be requested to continue his correspondence in regard to stereotype plates of the revision.

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\* [This was merely a letter of inquiry, written in England. No copy preserved.]

Dr. Crosby was requested to act in place of Dr. Strong, now absent from the country, in the matter of obtaining a copyright for the Revised Version in the United States.

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[Letter of Dr. Schaff to Dr. Cartmell.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, March 30, 1874.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR :

Your favor of Feb. 7 was duly received and laid before the Revision Committee at its last meeting.

I am authorized to say in reply that the American Bible Revision Committee is willing to pay a fair price for a duplicate set of plates of the Revised Version of the Scriptures in all the editions which the British Committee may issue, and will be glad to receive definite proposals from you whenever you are prepared to make them.

Such an arrangement will secure, what is most important, entire uniformity and accuracy in the editions of the Revised Scriptures to be issued in Great Britain and the United States. Besides it may enable us to make an arrangement with an American publisher or with the American Bible Society similar to the one which the British Committee has entered into with the University Presses.

We are willing to give the Delegates of the Oxford Clarendon Press and the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press the commercial benefit of our revision labors for the British Empire, and we believe that in justice we are entitled to the same privilege within the United States. All we ask is that, in the absence of an international copyright, we may get the duplicate set of plates on such terms as will secure us against injurious competition.

I have forwarded to the British Committee in December our revision of the Book of *Genesis*, and the Gospel of *St. Matthew*. *Exodus*, and *St. Mark*, will soon follow. Our suggestions will be acted on by the English Committee in April. Bishop Ellicott wrote to me, Jan. 27, in behalf of the New Testament Company, that the greatest possible attention will be given to all criticisms and suggestions of the American Committee. The result of this examination of our criticisms by the English Companies will enable you to form an estimate of the nature and extent of our labors. I will only say that we find ourselves in full harmony

with the principles, tact and taste which have guided the British Companies, and that our criticisms and suggestions are all in the same line. We shall spare no pains to finish the important and laborious work which Providence has laid upon us.

Hoping to hear from you as soon as you have agreed upon the terms of the purchase and the time of publication,

I am very respectfully and truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

The REV. DR. CARTMELL,

Master of Christ's College, Cambridge.

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[Letter of Dr. Cartmell to Dr. Schaff.]

[Confidential.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE,  
CAMBRIDGE, 5 August, 1874. }

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR :

Your communication of March 30, 1874, relative to the publication and sale in the United States of America of the Revised Version of the Holy Scriptures, has been received by me, and most carefully considered by the Delegates of the Clarendon Press at Oxford, and by the Syndics of the University Press at Cambridge; and I am authorized on their behalf to make the following proposals to the American Bible Revision Committee.

We presume that under the arrangements we propose, you will secure to yourselves, or to some authorized agent, the sole and exclusive copyright of the version for a certain number of years, together with the consequent exclusive right of sale in the United States of America; and on this presumption we are ready to concede and convey to you the sole and exclusive right of printing, publishing and selling the same, or any part thereof, in the United States, during the whole term of our copyright as by the laws of England established. This term is now forty-two years from the date of publication.

We will also supply to you in London, for the purposes conceded, plates, either stereotype or electrotype, as you may desire, of every edition of the book or any part thereof, whatever be its size, form, or type, at the trade prices for such plates as are current in England at the time; and we will give you due notice of the intended printing and publication of such book or part of book, so that the plates may be sent to America in such time that

there may be simultaneous publication in both England and America.

In consideration of this concession, and the exclusion of ourselves from the market in the United States, we think it fair that the American Bible Revision Committee should pay to us five thousand pounds sterling (£5,000), by installments proportionate to the portions of the first edition of the whole book, containing the Old and New Testaments and the Apocrypha, of which the plates or copy are from time to time delivered to you.

The foregoing terms, if accepted, to be embodied in a proper legal agreement, comprising all usual clauses applicable to the case. Believe me, my dear sir,

Very truly yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

The REV. DR. SCHAFF.

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[Dr. Schaff to Dr. Cartmell.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Sept. 5, 1874.

*The Rev. Dr. Cartmell, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge.*

REV. AND DEAR SIR :

I have the honor to acknowledge your favor of Aug. 5, in which you offer, in the name of the Delegates of the Clarendon Press at Oxford and the Syndics of the University Press at Cambridge, to furnish the American Bible Revision Committee stereotype or electrotypes of every edition of the Revised Version of the Scriptures and parts thereof, at the trade prices for such plates current in England at the time, for simultaneous publication in the United States, with the exclusive privilege of publication, and to the exclusion of the British publishers from the American market, for which concession you ask five thousand pounds sterling by installments.

I shall lay this important communication before the joint meeting of the two Companies on the last Friday of this month, and shall inform you in due time of their action.

For the present I confine myself to the remark that in no case would we exclude the English editions from the American market even if we could.

The only thing we could do is to prevent republication, provided we can secure the copyright in the United States, which will depend somewhat upon the final determination of our status and

precise relation to the British Committee. It would facilitate our decision if you would kindly inform us how many editions you propose to issue, and whether the demand of £5,000 is independent of the number of editions we may desire to purchase from the University Presses.

Believe me, my dear sir,

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Dr. Cartmell to Dr. Schaff.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE,  
CAMBRIDGE, Oct. 16, 1874. }

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR :

I had the honor of receiving your letter of September 5 (whilst I was absent from Cambridge) and have communicated it to the Delegates of the Oxford Clarendon Press.

I regret that I did not receive it in time to enable me to send an answer to your inquiries before your meeting the last week in September.

Referring to the last paragraph of your letter, I would say :

1. That, inasmuch as the copyright of the Revised Version belongs jointly to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the two University Presses would do what was possible for them, to prevent English editions from competing with the sale of your editions in the American market.

2. That we cannot name beforehand how many editions we shall issue, as that will depend upon the demand of the English public for the Revised Version.

3. That the sum of £5,000 has been named, independently of the number of editions you may desire to purchase from the University Presses.

By the payment of such sum you will obtain the right to purchase, on the terms named, plates of every edition, whatever be its size or form, issued by either or both the University Presses, during the whole term of our copyright.

I am, reverend and dear Sir, with much respect,

Very faithfully yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

The REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

## ACTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

(From the Minutes, Sept. 26, 1874, p. 57.)

A letter from Rev. Dr. Cartmell, Rector of Christ Church, in the name of the Delegates of the Clarendon Press at Oxford and the Syndics of the University Press at Cambridge, was read, in which they offer for the sum of £5,000 to furnish the plates of all editions of the Revised Version issued in England at the price of the plates in that country, the American Committee to have the exclusive right of publishing the version in the United States.

After remarks from several members, it was voted that the Executive Committee confer with a number of leading publishers in regard to the publication of the Revised Version in the United States, and report the result of their conference at the next meeting.

[In accordance with instructions from the American Company, the President and a member of the Committee entered into correspondence with three well-known publishers to ascertain whether and on what terms they would be willing to assume the publication of the Revised Version. Two declined at once. A third firm looked upon the terms more favorably, with certain modifications, but made no offer. The University Presses no doubt deemed their terms liberal, in view of their very large outlay in paying all the expenses of the British Committee. At the same time it is due to the American Committee to state that while they expected to pay the full price for duplicate plates, including one-half of the cost of composition (which are the usual terms on which American publishers can secure duplicate plates of any English book), they were not prepared for an additional charge of £5,000 or \$25,000; considering the fact that by their gratuitous literary labors they have increased the commercial value of the work, and that they never intended (as expressly stated in the letters of Dr. Schaff, p. 102, etc.) to interfere with the freest importation and circulation of the University editions in the United States, such as the University editions of the King James' Version have always enjoyed. It is not surprising, therefore, that no American publisher was willing to accept the terms of the University Presses, and even if they had been accepted, the American Committee would have been still under the necessity of providing for their own expenses.]

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[Letter of Messrs. Harper & Bros. to Dr. Schaff.]

FRANKLIN SQUARE,  
NEW YORK, Oct. 29, 1874. }

DEAR DOCTOR SCHAFF :

\* \* \* With regard to Dr. Cartmell's letter (returned herewith) we think that the terms proposed are not unreasonable, provided :

1. That the price for plates shall be simply for the cost of stereotyping or electrotyping, that the plates shall be perfect, and that there shall be no charge for composition.

2. That we could maintain the copyright in the United States.

But we question whether such a copyright could be maintained. Therefore a fair plan would be for the American editors to guarantee the copyright to the American publisher, who would pay, so long as the copyright held, a royalty to the American editors, and some corresponding royalty to the English proprietors, until the amount thus paid shall reach £5,000, the sum proposed by them.

We understood you to say that it would be several years before the work, or any portion of it, will be ready, so that there will be ample time for a modification of Dr. Cartmell's proposition.

Yours truly,

HARPER & BROS.

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[Letter of Dr. Schaff to the authorities of the University Presses.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, November 16, 1875.

THE REV. JAMES CARTMELL, D.D.,

*Master of Christ's College, Cambridge.*

MY DEAR DR. CARTMELL:

After some unavoidable delay I am able to send you, for the authorities of the University Presses, the inclosed documents containing the action of the American Revision Companies in response to the plan of adjustment proposed by the English Companies,\* and the legal opinion of the Hon. Judge Fancher,† formerly Solicitor in the United States Courts and member of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, concerning the question of copyright.

We have also consulted other lawyers, and they agree with Judge Fancher in the opinion that, on the plan proposed, we can secure a copyright, and that the election of several members of our body as members of the English Companies will tend to strengthen the copyright, but that the chief condition is the assignment of the copyright interest by the English revisers to the American revisers for use in the United States.

Such an assignment is undoubtedly intended by the British

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[\* See p. 94, 95.

[† See p. 156.]

Companies and clearly implied in their scheme of consolidation. It is as clearly understood on our part that we make over to the British Companies our share in the literary property of the common work for exclusive use in England, and even for free exportation of the English editions into the United States. In this way the copyright will secure mutual protection and guard the purity and integrity of the text in both countries.

Beyond this object, so important to both parties, we have no interest in the copyright. We do not expect to need it for the payment of our expenses. For our friends are willing to furnish the necessary means in order to facilitate the widest possible circulation of the Revised Version, provided we can assure them of the recognition of our fellow-authorship. This recognition is, in our opinion, absolutely essential to the success of the revision in this country, and will ensure such success without a reasonable doubt.

We are quite satisfied with the proposed plan of acknowledging this fellow-authorship, and are willing to consummate the arrangement on our part as soon as we learn that the University Presses have ratified the same.

I am requested by the American Revision Companies to transmit to you these views, with the assurance of our profound regard and cordial gratification at the prospect of a satisfactory conclusion of our negotiations.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

#### LEGAL OPINION OF THE HON. JUDGE FANCHER ON THE COPYRIGHT QUESTION.

229 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, October 2d, 1875.

REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.,

*President of the American Bible Revision Committee.*

DEAR SIR:

Your letter of the 18th ult. has been duly received, and would have been sooner answered but for my absence from the city.

I have read with care the plan of co-operation, as proposed between the British and American Companies having in hand the work of the revision of the Holy Scriptures. It suggests an arrangement between the American Committee and the English



Committee (in which are to be included the representatives of the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge) to the effect that the English and American Committees shall be consolidated, so far as the rights of authorship are concerned, to secure to them the joint ownership and copyright of their Revised Version of the Holy Scriptures, as well as to guard the purity and integrity of the text against spurious and erroneous reprints in England or America.

I am of the opinion that, upon the proposed plan, the copyright of the revised work may be secured in the usual method under the Acts of Congress of the United States. But, in order to effectuate such protection to the copyright, the English authors should assign to the American Committee their rights as such authors, so as to bring the case within the provisions of the Act of Congress. That Act allows citizens or residents of the United States who shall be the authors thereof to copyright their books, etc., and it extends the same privilege to their executors, administrators, or assigns. U. S. Rev. Stat. p. 966. Previous, therefore, to the deposit of the book with the Librarian of Congress, for the purpose of securing the copyright, a proper transfer should be executed and delivered by the English authors to the American Committee, so that the latter can lawfully claim here the full copyright, both as authors of the portions prepared by them, and as legal assigns of the portions prepared in England.

It has been held that the assignee of an unpublished literary composition from a non-resident alien author is entitled to the protection of our Act of Congress. *Keene v. Wheatley*, 9 Am. L. R. 33; *Brightley's Dig.* p. 181. If such assignment be made to those in America who are the authors of that portion of the work produced here, then they will have a good title to the whole copyright of the American editions.

You have asked another question, which is, "What effect will the plan have upon the importation and sale of the English editions of the work to be published by the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge?" I answer: No difficulty need arise in that respect; for it would be proper that the American Committee should execute a paper, at the time they receive the assignment from the English authors, consenting and granting license that the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge shall be at liberty to publish the whole work in England, and also

to export to and sell in the United States any of their editions of the same.

I should add, to prevent misconception, that I do not think the copyright above mentioned will cover anything but the alterations and additions of the revisers. The original text is the property of the public, and cannot be the subject of copyright. It was decided in *Stowe v. Thomas*, 2 Wall, Jr., 547, by Mr. Justice Grier that it was not an infringement of the author's copyright to print a translation of the romance called "Uncle Tom's Cabin." A translation may not be a piracy of the language of the original composition. A copy of the one would not, in words, be a copy of the other. But so far as a translation is itself a creation or an invention, it is the work and language of the author, and may be protected. The composition is his own, and an unauthorized transcript thereof would, I think, invade the author's right of "copy." It is the application of new toil and talent to produce novelty and improvement, when revisers make a new version of the Bible. With much regard, yours truly,

E. L. FANCHER.

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[Letter of the Rev. Dr. Cartmell.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE,  
CAMBRIDGE, January 5, 1876. }

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

I was favored with your letter of November 16, inclosing a printed copy of the resolutions of the American Revision Company, and of Judge Fancher's opinion in regard to the copyright. These I have communicated to the Syndics of our University Press; and I desire, on their behalf and my own, to thank you.

We shall very shortly take the matter into careful consideration. But, in order that we may have the whole case before us, I wish to call your attention to the pecuniary arrangement proposed to you in my letter of August 5, 1874, and to ask you to inform me whether, in the event of the other points being settled to your satisfaction, you are prepared to accept it.

You will I am sure agree in the importance of having an explicit understanding on this point.

Believe me, my dear Dr. Schaff,

Very truly yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

THE REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

[Letter of Professor Price to Dr. Schaff.]

SECRETARY'S ROOM, CLARENDON PRESS, }  
OXFORD, Jan. 8, 1876. }

MY DEAR SIR :

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated New York, Nov. 16, 1875, respecting the admission of certain members of the American Company of Revisers into the English Companies, and the mode of securing copyright of the Revised Version in the United States. I am also favored with a copy of the resolution of the American Company in reference to the resolutions of the English Companies, and with a copy of the opinion of Judge Fancher on the question of copyright.

The Delegates desire me to thank you and your Committee for these communications.

The Delegates observe that you do not expressly state whether you agree to all the terms stated in the letter addressed to you by the two University Presses in June, 1874, and especially whether you are willing to buy stereo- and electroplates of the several editions on the terms therein mentioned, and also to pay five thousand pounds sterling (£5,000) for the copyright and other privileges proposed to be granted to you. The Delegates desire to know whether you accept these terms, provided that a copyright in the United States can be secured to you. Also, as the money is to be paid not all at one time, but from time to time in installments at a ratio proportionate to the work delivered to you, they would desire that some responsible person or persons should guarantee the payments in due course in a manner to be approved by them.

These matters are evidently of great importance, and the Delegates venture to hope that you may be able to reply to these inquiries without much delay, so that they may proceed to the consideration of the other questions referred to in your letter.

We presume that Judge Fancher's opinion was given on a case submitted to him. Would you be good enough to favor us with a copy of the case, so that we may see more clearly the several points on which he gives an opinion.

Believe me to be, my dear sir,

Yours very faithfully,

BARTHOLOMEW PRICE,

*Secretary to the Delegates of the Clarendon Press.*

THE REV. DR. SCHAFF.

## RESOLUTIONS OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD, 42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, JANUARY 28, 1876.

The letters [of the Rev. Dr. Cartmell and Professor Price] were referred to a Committee consisting of Bishop Lee, Chancellor Crosby and Professor Day, with instructions to report upon the same at five o'clock this afternoon, to which time it was voted to adjourn.

At five o'clock the following paper was presented by the Committee named above, through their Chairman, Bishop Lee, and after having been considered and discussed, article by article, was unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS, We are requested by the representatives of the Syndics of the University Press at Cambridge and the Delegates of the Clarendon Press at Oxford to state, as antecedent to their consideration of the question between the British and American Committees engaged in the revision of the Authorized Version of the Scriptures, whether we agree to a proposal made in August, 1874, by the Syndics and Delegates of the above mentioned Presses, to purchase of them the stereotype or electrotype plates of the proposed version of the Scriptures "at the trade prices for such plates as are current in England at the time," and also "to pay to them the sum of £5,000 sterling in consideration of this concession and the exclusion of the British publishers from the market in the United States":

*Resolved, First:* That any financial arrangement on our part for the publication in this country of the Revised Version by the purchase of the stereotype plates or otherwise is premature, and at present entirely impracticable, and that the question of a commercial arrangement with the University Presses is, in our judgment, quite apart from the main question of our position as fellow-revisers.

*Resolved, Secondly:* That we continue to regard it as essential to the mutual co-operation of the British and American revisers and the success of this great undertaking in the United States, that our joint responsibility in the production of the Revised Version should be mutually and frankly acknowledged, and that with this view we accepted the arrangement proposed by the

English Committee for the expressed recognition of our joint agency in this work.

*Resolved, Thirdly:* That we consider it exceedingly desirable that the main question of our joint responsibility in the revision, treated independently of all commercial arrangements, be settled as speedily as possible, with the understanding that the recognition of our full co-operation in the revision work does not interfere in any degree with any relations subsisting between the English Companies and the University Presses, or give us any pecuniary rights whatever in Great Britain or her colonies.

*Resolved, Fourthly:* That our work in America has advanced so far that (supported as we are by the growing sense among the American people of the importance of the revision) we cannot conscientiously abandon it, but must carry it out to the end, and that we devoutly trust that in so doing we may ever act in complete accord with our brethren of the English Companies.

*Resolved, Fifthly:* That the President of the American Revision Committee be authorized to communicate this action both to the University Presses and also to the English Companies, as being a response to the interrogatory of the former and an explanation of our position to the latter.

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[Letter from Bishop Ellicott in behalf of the English New Testament Company, in response to the Resolutions of the Am. Com., Jan. 28, 1876.]

JERUSALEM CHAMBER, S. W., }  
February 23, 1876. }

DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

I have the honor of transmitting to you and the American Companies the following resolution:

That inasmuch as the New Testament Company has transferred the copyright of their revision to the University Presses, and as the resolutions recently transmitted materially affect the interests of the possessors of the copyright, it is to the Presses that the New Testament Company must refer the American Companies for an answer to the questions raised in their resolutions.

I remain, with kind compliments,  
Very faithfully yours,  
C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

[Letter from Bishop Browne of Winchester, and action of the English Old Testament Company.]

FARNHAM CASTLE, SURREY, }  
March 20, 1876. }

My DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

I have been desired to send to you, as representing the American Committee, the inclosed resolutions of the English Old Testament Company, and I very heartily join in the expression of earnest hope that the questions between us may be satisfactorily settled.

Believe me ever

Very sincerely yours,

E. H. WINTON.

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*Copy of Resolutions passed by the Old Testament Revision Company, Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, March 15, 1876.*

1. That the Old Testament Revision Company, having taken into consideration the resolutions of the American Committee passed January 28, 1876, are of opinion that inasmuch as questions of a financial character have been raised between the American Committee and the University Presses, of which the Company were not cognizant and which they have no power to decide, it is impossible for them, having transferred the copyright of the Revised Version to the University Presses, to interfere with the legitimate claims of the Presses in respect to it. And however desirable it may be to separate financial considerations from the question of joint authorship and copyright, the Old Testament Company would respectfully submit that in the present instance such a separation cannot be effected, inasmuch as the interest of the University Presses in the revision is to a large extent, although not exclusively, of a financial character. The Company therefore feel unable to go beyond their resolution of July 8, 1875, and must leave the financial question to be settled as it has been raised, between the American Committee and the University Presses.

2. That the Bishop of Winchester be requested, in conveying the above resolution to the American Committee, to express on the part of the Old Testament Company their earnest hope that the questions which have arisen between the American Committee and the University Presses may be satisfactorily settled.

STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE REVISION  
COMMITTEE TO THE BRITISH BIBLE REVISION  
COMMITTEE, MAY 26, 1876.

[From the Minutes, pp. 105, 106.]

It has seemed expedient to the American Bible Revision Committee to make a statement of their views on the matter of difference between them and their brethren of the British Bible Revision Committee, without any direct reference to the former correspondence. We therefore respectfully submit the following to the British Committee: \*

1. The desire, we believe, is earnest on both sides the Atlantic that the Revised Bible shall be accepted wherever the English language is spoken; and that the revision shall be *one*.

2. As this country contains about one-half the English-speaking people of the world, it is proper to consider that the success of the revision here depends very largely upon the connection of American scholarship with the work.

3. Therefore the American Committee deem it essential to the true success of the revision that their co-authorship be acknowledged, no mere advisory position meeting the want in any just degree.

4. The particular way in which this co-authorship shall be recognized is a matter of comparatively small moment, and may be left for decision until the time for final revision and publication, it being clear that we cannot be responsible for any part of the work in the final determination of which we have no voice.

It may be proper at this point to remind our English brethren, that, although we have regularly transmitted such suggestions as occurred to us in examining their work, copies of which were courteously furnished us, we have not yet been officially informed of the action taken upon any of them.

5. The two questions of copyright and co-authorship are not necessarily connected, so far as we are concerned. It is sufficient for us to say that no copyright is sought by us, except for the preservation of the purity of the text. It should be clearly understood that our expenses are defrayed from wholly independent, voluntary sources, and that we have no pecuniary interest or object in the publication of the Revised Version.

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[\* The report was made by Dr. Crosby as chairman of a committee previously appointed, and was adopted unanimously, with the exception of Dr. Krauth, who voted against it.

6 It is equally clear, that the relation between the British Committee and the University Presses is one with which we have nothing to do. That is largely a pecuniary relation. Our claim is a moral one entirely, and will in no way increase the expenses of the University Presses. We ask no financial help from them ; but we actually put into the work, without compensation, the commercial value of our literary labors. It is our mature conviction that we should take no other position than that of Christian scholars, giving our time and labor from a single-hearted interest in the study and propagation of the Holy Scriptures.

We lay this plain statement of the case before our brethren, hoping that they will fully appreciate the motive which prompts it.

We are willing to go forward with the revision, as we have done during the past four years, but we claim it as due to justice that our share in the authorship be clearly recognized.

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[Letter from Canon Troutbeck.]

4 DEAN'S YARD, WESTMINSTER, }  
14 June, 1876. }

MY DEAR SIR :

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 30, announcing the dispatch of your notes on the Catholic Epistles, which I hope will reach us in the same good condition as did your last parcel containing your notes on the Acts.

I am requested by the Company to inform you that the University Presses have prohibited them from sending you any more of their work, and that until this prohibition is removed they have not the power to supply you with any more material.

I remain yours very truly,

J. TROUTBECK.

REV. DR. SCHAFF.

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#### ACTION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT COMPANY.

The New Testament Company at their meeting in the Bible House, New York, July 6, 1876, having heard the letter from Canon Troutbeck, took the following action :

*Resolved*, That this communication from the British revisers be referred to the general meeting of the Committee on September 29, at 9:30 A.M. (instead of 7:30 P.M., as before voted), and we ask the concurrence of the Old Testament Company in this action.

J. HENRY THAYER, *Sec'y of N. T. Co.*



The Old Testament Company at their session in New Brunswick, N. J., July 12, 1876, concurred in the above action.

JOHN DEWITT,

*Sec'y pro tem. of the O. T. Comp.*

[Letter of the Rev. Dr. Cartmell.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE,

CAMBRIDGE, 10 July, 1876. }

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I have given to your letter of May 5th much careful consideration.

I transmit herewith the joint resolutions of the Delegates of the Oxford Press and the Syndics of the Cambridge Press, in reply to the resolutions of the American Committee dated January 28, 1876.

The authorities of the Presses do not desire to urge upon the American Committee the acceptance of the offer contained in my letter of August, 1874. At the time, we thought the offer reasonable and equitable; but as you are unable to accept it, we withdraw it in every particular.

Also, considering the practical difficulty and uncertainty of establishing in America a copyright in the Revised Version, I think the question of copyright had better be withdrawn from discussion.

And as I understand that the proposal to permit our revisers to elect into their respective Companies members of the American Committee was made solely in the hope of obtaining for the Committee copyright in America,\* this, of course, must be abandoned.

The co-operation however of the English Companies and the American Committee need not be discontinued; and any arrangement for continuing it, I am persuaded, shall receive from the authorities of the Presses favorable consideration, provided that due security is taken to prevent the disclosure to the public of the communications between the Companies and the Committee—which must necessarily be confidential.

Believe me, my dear Dr. Schaff,

Very truly yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

The REVEREND PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

[\* This is a mistake; the arrangement was proposed mainly for the purpose of securing the moral rights of the Am. revisers.]

## RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES.

REVISION OF THE AUTHORIZED VERSION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.

## MEMORANDUM.

The Delegates of the Clarendon Press, Oxford, and the Syndics of the University Press, Cambridge, have had under consideration the resolutions of the American Revision Committee, dated January 28, 1876, which have been communicated to them by Dr. Schaff.

The Delegates and Syndics have resolved as follows :

1. That, whereas the terms stated by Dr. Cartmell on behalf of the two Presses in his letter to Dr. Schaff, dated August 5, 1874, have not been accepted, these terms be now withdrawn.

2. That, whereas the resolutions agreed to by the English Revision Companies in July, 1875, were expressly declared to be subject to the consent of the University Presses (as indeed they must necessarily be), the Delegates and Syndics cannot consent under present circumstances to give effect to such resolutions.

3. That the American Committee be informed that, if they can see their way to make any other proposals to the Delegates and Syndics, such proposals shall receive respectful consideration, if communicated not later than November 1st next.

## ACTION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, {  
September 30, 1876. }

[From the Minutes, pp. 111-113. The following report was prepared by the officers of the two Companies and unanimously adopted by a full meeting.]

WHEREAS, we have received information from the New Testament Company of the British revisers, under date of June 14, 1876, "that the University Presses have prohibited them from sending any more of their work"; and

WHEREAS, since then we have been invited by the authorities of the English University Presses and by the Rev. Dr. Cartmell, in a letter dated July 10, 1876, "to make any other proposals for continuing the co-operation of the English Companies and the American Committee":

*Resolved*, I. That we began and have continued our work under

the assurance made by the British Companies that they would supply us with their revision, and we are unable to divine why the fulfilment of that agreement should have been prohibited; yet from the memorandum of the University Presses and the letter of the Rev. Dr. Cartmell we are glad to infer that the prohibition has been or will be removed, and thus the original and necessary basis of co-operation re-established.

*Resolved, II.* That inasmuch as we have to assume a certain responsibility for the revision in the United States, we regard it as right for us, before any part of the revision goes finally to the press, to know what shape it will ultimately take, if we are to have one and the same revision for both countries.

We therefore propose that, prior to the publication of any part of the revision, an attempt should be made to bring the work of the British and American Companies into entire accordance; and, with this view, that a report be made to us of the action taken upon our suggestions, thus affording an opportunity, by conference or otherwise, of securing a satisfactory adjustment of any remaining points of difference. In case such an adjustment be secured, the American market will be freely open, with our cordial endorsement, to the English editions of the revision, with whatever commercial advantage may accrue to the University Presses for a specified period.

Should the preceding proposal be unsatisfactory or impracticable, we submit the following alternative as a general basis, the details to be adjusted hereafter:

That the English and American Committees continue to co-operate as heretofore by a confidential exchange of their labors, working on the same principles and aiming at one and the same revision of the English version; yet reserving for each Committee the right to vote finally on all questions, and to issue (in case it be deemed best) two recensions of the same revision, with such differences as they may not be able to adjust to their mutual satisfaction—it being understood that, in this case also, the American Committee does not intend (and never did intend) to anticipate the British publication of the revision, in whole or in part, or to interfere with the free circulation of the editions of the University Presses in the United States.

It is understood by the American Committee that the confidential character of the communications between them and the British Companies shall be sacredly observed as heretofore.

[Letter of Dr. Schaff to the American Revision Committee.]

LONDON (GREAT RUSSELL STREET),  
January 4, 1877. }

*To the Bible Revision Committee, New York.*

DEAR BRETHREN :

Upon my arrival in Liverpool I set myself in communication with the Rev. Dr. Cartmell, and after some preliminary correspondence I concluded with him an arrangement which I herewith transmit to you. It is based upon our second proposition without excluding the first, and leaves us free to carry out the one or the other as we think best. There are no conditions attached to it, but only two desires concerning the unity of the revision, and its completion within the ten years originally fixed. In these desires we ourselves fully share. The arrangement is therefore as satisfactory as we can wish. It will be shortly submitted to the University Presses and the Revision Companies for their formal ratification. I am assured by several influential members that it will be cordially sanctioned by both.

I learn here that the New Testament Company has not yet acted on our notes, except those on the Synoptical Gospels; that it is nearly done with the Hebrews, and expects to finish Revelation in May. After that it will proceed to the second and final revision, and in connection with it carefully consider our emendations and suggestions. The Secretary promised me to send us a full account of their action. The Old Testament Company will no doubt do the same.

In the meantime it is well worth your consideration whether it might not be better for you to revise the remaining books independently, and to consider the English revision on your second revision, with a view to conform the two as nearly as possible. I have, however, left directions for the transmission of new material.

Having accomplished all I could at present in England, I shall now proceed to Bible lands without any delay and return in May or June, when I shall see the British revisers and the representatives of the University Presses for any further business relating to our work. I shall be with you in spirit at your monthly meetings, which it is a great privilege to attend and a great loss to miss.

With the best wishes for many happy New Years,

I am yours faithfully,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

[Letter of Dr. Cartmell to Dr. Schaaf.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE, CAMBRIDGE, }  
30 December, 1876. }

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF :

I am willing to recommend the Syndics of this Press to sanction an arrangement something like the following (which is based on the second of the proposals contained in your letter of 30th Sept. last) between the American Committee and the two English Companies of revisers.

That the American Committee and the English Companies continue to co-operate as heretofore by a confidential exchange of their labors, working on the same principles, and aiming at one and the same revision of the present English Authorized Version, yet reserving for the American Committee the right ultimately to decide for itself, independently of the English Companies, any question on which an agreement cannot be arrived at, and also the right to issue, subsequently to the publication of the English Revised Version, a recension of its own, if it thinks necessary so to do.

As a part of the arrangement I adopt with pleasure your own words, merely saying by way of parenthesis that I never doubted the assurances contained in them :

"It being understood that the American Committee does not intend (and never did intend) to anticipate the English publication of the revision, in whole or in part, or to interfere with the free circulation of the editions of the University Presses in the United States."

"It is understood by the American Committee that the confidential character of the communications between them and the English Companies shall be sacredly observed as heretofore."

To this I desire to append two observations :

(1) I earnestly hope that a second recension may be found unnecessary, and that it may be possible to secure the substitution of a single revised version for the present Authorized Version which has hitherto been used so largely over the English-speaking world.

(2) As the ten years within which our two Companies have undertaken with the University Presses to complete the revision are fast gliding away, the Companies will naturally be anxious to secure as much rapidity as possible in the transmission of communications from the American Committee.

I will suggest to the two Companies to make the American Committee acquainted with the results of their deliberations upon the proposed emendations which the Committee have communicated to them.

You will kindly understand this letter as coming from myself only. A more formal communication will be made to the American Committee as soon as the Companies meet.

Believe me, my dear Dr. Schaff,

Very truly yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

The REVEREND PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

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[Reply of Dr. Schaff to Dr. Cartmell.]

LONDON (59 GREAT RUSSELL STREET), }  
January 3, 1877. }

MY DEAR DR. CARTMELL :

Your second letter, after my arrival in England, reached me on the morning of the first of January—which happens to be my birthday. It was, therefore, in a double sense, a New Year's gift, and filled me with grateful joy at the prospect of a speedy removal of the difficulty which has arisen between the two revision Committees, and which might have been avoided had not the ocean prevented personal conference and explanation.

In your communication of December 30th you kindly say that you are willing to recommend the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press to sanction what is substantially our second proposal, which I had the honor to submit to you on the 30th of September last, stating it almost in the very words of our action. So far then the matter is virtually settled, our consent being pledged beforehand.

To this arrangement you append two observations to which I heartily consent, with the following explanation :

1. You express the hope that a second recension of the Revised Version may be found unnecessary, and that but a single revision be substituted for the present version.

The same desire is implied in our first proposition submitted to you. To this we shall adhere, and we shall resort to an American recension only in case of imperative necessity. You will find the American Committee ready to make every reasonable conces-

sion to the harmony and success of the work. But, in order that we may act freely and intelligently, it is essential that the British Companies inform us as early as convenient of the result of their action on the American emendations and suggestions, and thus enable us to reconsider the rejected changes and to reduce the differences to a minimum or to remove them altogether. We should also be provided with confidential copies of the final revision of the British Companies before it is given to the public with our approval.

2. You express a desire for the speedy completion of the revision and the prompt transmission of the American communications.

Considering that the American Committee began its labors two years after the British Companies, it has progressed as fast as the nature of the work and the professional duties of the members would permit.

The New Testament Company has finished the Gospels, the Acts, the Catholic Epistles, and the Epistles to the Romans, *i.e.*, all the parts which have been transmitted to us from England, and—in the want of further supply of material—is now engaged on the independent revision of the Epistle to the Hebrews. All our notes have been transmitted in printed copies to the British Company, except those on the Romans—which are probably now on the way; but I learn since my arrival in England that our notes have not yet been distributed nor considered, except those on the Synoptical Gospels. There is every prospect that our revision of the New Testament will be completed before the elapse of the decade originally contemplated as necessary for the work.

Our Old Testament Company has likewise exhausted the supply from England (the Pentateuch and the Psalms), and may shorten its labors by omitting the Apocrypha if necessary.

With the experience of four years' uninterrupted labor both Companies can proceed with increasing speed, and it is certainly their desire to do so.

I can see then no difficulty whatever remaining between us, and all that is left is the formal ratification of your recommendation by the University Presses and the British Revision Companies. Our consent, I repeat, is already secured by our action of September last. I am quite confident that after such ratification the co-operation of the English and American Committees will,

with the blessing of Almighty God, go on smoothly and harmoniously to the happy conclusion of their common work.

Wishing you many happy New Years,

I am, my dear Dr. Cartmell,

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

P. S.—I beg leave to inclose the draft of five articles of agreement, which I prepared on board the steamer while crossing the ocean, to be used if necessary as a basis of negotiations. They are now superseded, but will show you how nearly our thoughts met, and how far the American Committee is willing to protect and aid the circulation of the University editions of the Revised Version during the period of the American copyright, or until the adoption of the revision by the Churches in the United States.

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#### MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.

(THIRD DRAFT SUBMITTED BY THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES, AUG. 3, 1877.)

As a preliminary it seems desirable to state, that the primary object of the American Committee and the two English Companies is assumed to be, To obtain one and the same revision of the present English Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures.

For this end the following arrangement is proposed.

1. The English Companies will continue to send their first and provisional version to the American Committee from time to time for their observations thereon.

2. Such observations will be taken (as before) into careful consideration by the English Companies in connection with their second revision. The English Companies will then communicate to the American Committee the results of their second revision.

3. The English Companies will give reasonable time for the American Committee to return their remarks on any points that they may think important in these last communications; and, although the English Companies are precluded by the terms of their constitution from undertaking a third revision, they will nevertheless take such remarks of the American Commit-



tee into special consideration before the conclusion of their labors.

4. If any differences shall still remain, the American Committee will yield its preferences for the sake of harmony; provided that such differences of reading and rendering as the American Committee may represent to the English Companies to be of special importance, be distinctly stated either in the Preface to the Revised Version, or in an Appendix to the volume, during a term of fourteen years from the date of publication, unless the American Churches shall sooner pronounce a deliberate opinion upon the Revised Version with the view of its being taken for public use.

5. The English Companies will communicate to the American Committee copies of their revision in its final form before it is given to the public.

6. All communications between the American Committee and the two English Companies relating to the work of revision to be regarded (as heretofore) as made in the strictest confidence.

7. The American Committee will in no case interfere with the interests of the two University Presses in the Revised Version as finally settled.

They will do what lies in their power to promote the freest circulation of the editions of the University Presses in the United States, not only by abstaining from issuing any editions of their own, but by recognizing the editions of the University Presses as the authorized editions, and in all proper ways favoring such issues and discouraging irresponsible issues, for the period of fourteen years.\*

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\* In the first draft of the Memorandum which was submitted by the English University Presses to the American Committee, February 28, 1877, the seventh clause was as follows :

"The American Committee will in no case interfere with the interests of the two University Presses in the Revised Version as finally settled, and will engage to protect for a term of fourteen years the editions of such version against irresponsible reprints in the United States "

A second draft, which was submitted to Dr. Schaff, June 29, 1877, while in England, had the qualifying clause, "with the understanding, however, that if the American Bible Society should be ready to publish an edition or editions of the Revised Version before the expiration of the fourteen years, no objection be made to such action."

The reason for omitting this clause in the third and last draft is stated in Dr. Cartmell's letter, p. 124. Dr. Day conducted the foreign correspondence in behalf of the Committee during the absence of Dr. Schaff in the Orient.

8. If the Revised Version be adopted by the American Churches, it shall, after such term of fourteen years become public property in the United States, as the Authorized Version is now.

NOTE.—By the term “American Churches” is understood all religious bodies in the United States which use the present Authorized Version in their public services.

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[Letter of Dr. Cartmell to Dr. Day.]

CHRIST'S COLLEGE LODGE, }  
CAMBRIDGE, August 3, 1877. }

MY DEAR SIR:

The observations which you conveyed to us, in your letter in the spring, upon the seventh clause of the Memorandum proposed for regulating the relations between the American Committee and the two English Companies of Revision, have been carefully considered.

With the view of removing the objections which the Committee have felt to clause seventh, another clause has been drawn up as a substitute for it, which is expressed in nearly the words of your letter of March 24, omitting, however, the reference to the contingency of the American Bible Society publishing an edition of the Revised Version before the end of the fourteen years, as we think it objectionable to give the permission suggested.

I send herewith two copies of the Memorandum in its final form, and I trust that it will be acceptable to the Committee.

I trust also that the Committee will agree to its terms by a formal resolution to be entered upon the minutes of their proceedings.

Will you have the goodness to return to me one of the copies of the Memorandum, with a copy of such resolution transcribed upon the third page, and duly certified?

Believe me, my dear sir,

Very truly yours,

JAMES CARTMELL.

The REVEREND DR. GEORGE E. DAY, Secretary A. R. C.

RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE  
AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

(From the Minutes of the American Committee, Sept. 28, 1877.)

*Resolved*, That the American Bible Revision Committee hereby accept and ratify the agreement contained in the Memorial from Dr. Cartmell accompanying his letter of 3d of August, 1877, with the understanding in regard to Article 8th that the American Committee assume no responsibility in regard to the action of the American Churches, or in regard to any term beyond the period of fourteen years.

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[Letter of Dr. Schaff to Dr. Cartmell.]

NEW YORK, 42 BIBLE HOUSE, Oct. 10, 1877.

MY DEAR DR. CARTMELL :

Inclosed I have the honor to send you a copy of the Memorandum of agreement between the two Committees on Bible Revision, together with a resolution of the American Committee accepting and ratifying the same.

The objection previously urged against Art. 7 was again considered, viz., that our Committee has no *legal* power to protect a book or editions of a book printed in a foreign country, and to prevent irresponsible reprints which are likely to appear sooner or later. All we can do is to pledge our *moral* support to the University editions for a term of fourteen years. This we have concluded to do. At the same time we have waived our undoubted right to publish an American edition, from which our necessary expenses of co-operation might be refunded, as the expenses of the English Companies are provided for by the University Presses. We have made this sacrifice in the interest of peace and harmony.

The exception taken to Art. 8 is based upon a strict construction of its conditional language, but it is not supposed that the University Presses intended to bind the Committee beyond the specified term of fourteen years.

Believe me, my dear Dr. Cartmell,

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

The REV. JAMES CARTMELL, D.D.

FURTHER ACTION ON THE AGREEMENT WITH THE  
UNIVERSITY PRESSES.

[From the Minutes of Sept. 25, 1880, p. 149.]

A committee consisting of Drs. Woolsey, Crosby and Thayer, of the New Testament Company, and Drs. DeWitt, Day and Chambers, of the Old Testament Company, was appointed to report what action, if any, is required from us in execution of our agreement with the British Committee to protect their interests on this side the ocean.

This committee withdrew, and after consultation recommended that the American Revision Committee adopt the following paper, and that the same be given to the press as the true method of meeting our engagement with the British Committee :

"The American Committee of Bible Revision hereby announce to the American public that only those editions of the New Revision, including marginal renderings, which are published or approved by the University Presses of England will be recognized by us as the authorized editions."

*Voted*, That the decision in regard to the time of publishing the above announcement be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

[The above announcement was duly and widely made before the publication of the Revised New Testament in May, 1881, but could not prevent the appearance of irresponsible reprints.]

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*Correspondence with the University Presses concerning the delay of  
the Memorial Copies.*

(The University Presses and their agent in London had repeatedly assured the American Committee by letter and cablegrams that they would forward the Memorial copies in time for simultaneous distribution to American subscribers on or before the day of publication, May 17, 1881. The delay caused great confusion and dissatisfaction, but it is fully explained in the following letters, and relieves the University Presses and their agent of all blame.)

[Dr. Schaff to Professor Price.]

NEW YORK, June 8, 1881.

*Professor Bartholomew Price, Oxford.*

MY DEAR SIR :

Finally, the last four hundred Memorial copies of the Revised New Testament have arrived, nearly three weeks after its publi-

cation in New York. They are still in the Custom House, and we may have to wait for them yet a few days as things are subject there to certain rigid rules. In the meantime our friends who subscribed for a copy in expectation of receiving it on the day of publication are getting more and more impatient. The first copies were not received in store till the 19th of May, and the pressure on Nelson & Co. was so great that we could not deliver them till the book was on sale in all the bookstores of the city. I could give no explanation of the disappointment.

You have no idea, my dear Professor Price, to what an amount of censure, abuse and mortification we have been exposed by this unaccountable delay. Letters are coming in every day with charges of bad faith. If you and Mr. Frowde had not repeatedly promised that we should have the books in good time for simultaneous delivery on the day of publication, we would not have ordered them.

The Memorial copy is *beautiful* and gives *entire satisfaction*. The call for the Revised New Testament continues to be enormous. Already ten rival editions of all sizes and prices are in the field, and more are advertised. The whole country will be flooded with copies. Without American co-operation the sale would have been very limited. The revision is bound to succeed in America.

I am, my dear sir,

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF.

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[Mr. Frowde to Dr. Schaff.]

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS WAREHOUSE,  
7 PATERNOSTER ROW,  
LONDON, E. C., July 4, 1881. }

DEAR SIR :

I wish to tell you how deeply I regret having been unable to ship all your Revised New Testaments in time for publication day, according to promise. My calculations were based upon promises which I had received from the University Presses as to when the quires would be forthcoming, and assurances from the managers of our binding house as to the rate at which the books could be turned out. Much to my mortification all these promises and assurances proved, in the event, false, as did also certain representations that were made to me respecting the completion of the work.

All I can now do, is to offer you my most sincere apology for my shortcomings, and express my sorrow that you should have been subjected to so much inconvenience and annoyance in consequence.

Believe me, yours obediently,

HENRY FROWDE.

REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

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[Professor Price to Dr. Schaff.]

SECRETARY'S ROOM, CLARENDON PRESS, }  
 OXFORD, August 4, 1881. }

MY DEAR DR. SCHAFF:

Many thanks for your last letters. All moneys due from your Revision Committee in respect of the 2,100 copies of the Pica Royal 8vo. edition of the Revised New Testament have been duly received, and I believe that a proper discharge has been sent to your treasurer. I am very sorry that the books should not have reached you as promptly as they should have done, but the enormous demand, which was so unprecedented and beyond all expectation, outstripped our power of production, and delay in delivery became unavoidable. Now there is a lull, and we have a large stock in the warehouse awaiting orders.

The work here has been subjected to very severe criticism, but has, I think, come out substantially unscathed: it is, if I may so say, only the fringe of it that has been burnt. The real merits of the work are acknowledged, and it will in my opinion stand, and eventually replace the King James Version.

Believe me to be, yours very truly,

BARTHOLOMEW PRICE.

REV. DR. SCHAFF.

[NOTE.—It is only necessary to add in conclusion that the agreement of the Am. Committee with the English Companies and the University Presses, printed on pp. 122-124, has proved satisfactory to all parties, and has been faithfully observed.]

## **Part Fourth.**

**SUNDRY ACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.**





## SUNDRY ACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

[This part contains a selection of resolutions and acts of the American Committee which relate to their home-work.]

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### THE MEETING FOR ORGANIZATION.

[From the Minutes, p. 7, sqq.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 4, 1872.

The American Committee on the revision of the English Authorized Version of the Bible met this day, at 2 P.M., at the study of Dr. Schaff, No. 40 Bible House, to complete their organization and make arrangements for the work before them.

Present: Drs. DeWitt, Green, Hare, Strong, Lee, Woolsey, Abbot, Kendrick, Thayer, Schaff and Day.

Rev. Dr. Woolsey was appointed temporary chairman. After prayer by Bishop Lee, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Prof. Charles Short and Prof. James Hadley were unanimously elected, and took their seats as members of the Committee.

Letters or messages were received from Professors Krauth, Lewis, Smith, Hackett, Warren, and Riddle expressing their regret at not being able to be present, with the assurance of their continued readiness to co-operate.

Printed copies of the revision by the British Companies, so far as completed, viz., in the O. T. of Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus, in the N. T. of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, were then distributed to the members of the American Companies with the express understanding that they should be regarded and kept as strictly confidential.

After a brief statement by Dr. Schaff in regard to the present state of the work of revision in Great Britain, and the desire of the British Committee to come into immediate connection with

the American Committee, the following officers were chosen by ballot :

REV. DR. SCHAFF, Chairman,  
PROF. GEORGE E. DAY, Secretary,  
PROF. CHARLES SHORT, Treasurer.

It was then *voted*

1. That the two Companies hold their meetings in New York.
2. That the officers of the Committee be authorized to secure the room No. 42 in the Bible House for one year or less, and to purchase the necessary furniture.
3. That Profs. Short, Day and Green be a committee to report upon the means of obtaining the necessary funds for the prosecution of the work of the Committee.

The two Companies then separated for the purpose of organization. On meeting again the O. T. Company reported that they had made choice of Prof. William Henry Green, Chairman, and Prof. George E. Day, Secretary ; the N. T. Company reported that they had elected Rev. Dr. Woolsey, Chairman, and Prof. Charles Short, Secretary.

The Committee then adjourned to meet at No. 40 Bible House, on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 9 A.M.

GEORGE E. DAY, *Secretary*.

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### QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

[From the Minutes, p. 11.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 30, 1872.

The Committee met this day at a quarter before 10 A.M., at No. 40 Bible House. Present, Drs. Schaff, De Witt, Conant, Bishop Lee, Drs. Green, Hare, Day, Strong, Packard, Kendrick, Thayer and Abbot.

\* \* \* \* The following report from the Committee on New Members, presented by the Chairman, Dr. Schaff, was adopted :

“The Committee appointed to consider new nominations for membership beg leave to report the following recommendations :

“1. The primary qualification for membership is, known proficiency in biblical scholarship, in accordance with rule 5 of the original commission of the Convocation of Canterbury, under which the American Committee has been organized.

"2. No religious denomination can claim representation in the Committee on purely denominational grounds.

"3. It is proper and desirable that, in due subordination to the first qualification, regard should be had to a fair representation of the various denominations using the Scriptures, in the Authorized English Version, and of the theological and literary institutions of the country.

"4. It is inexpedient, at present, to elect scholars residing at a great distance from New York, unless it be as corresponding members.

"5. The name of Rev. Dr. Crosby, Chancellor of the University of New York, is proposed to fill the vacancy occasioned in the New Testament Company by the resignation of the Rev. Prof. Henry B. Smith, D.D."

In accordance with the last recommendation in this report, it was voted that Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., be nominated for membership in this Committee, in place of Prof. Smith, resigned, and that the vote be taken at the next meeting.

Prof. Charles A. Aiken, D.D., of Princeton, was also nominated for membership in the O. T. Company; Prof. Timothy Dwight, D.D., of New Haven, in the N. T. Company, in place of Prof. Hadley, deceased; and Prof. Charles M. Mead, of Andover, in the O. T. Company.

Adjourned to the last Thursday of December, at 7 P.M.

GEORGE E. DAY, *Secretary*.

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## ORGANIZATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

[Letter of Dr. Schaff to the Committee on Bible Revision. From the Minutes, p. 71.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, May 14th, 1875.

DEAR BRETHREN:

I am happy to inform you that I have succeeded at last in securing the consent of about twenty gentlemen of different denominations and high standing in the community, to serve as a Committee of Finance to co-operate with our Committee. After repeated delays and disappointments, the first meeting was held in this room May 12th, and an organization effected. The Hon. Nathan Bishop, LL.D., was elected President, and Mr. A. L.

Taylor, Treasurer and Secretary. Mr. Taylor is Treasurer of the American Bible Society, and has his office in the Bible House. An appeal for funds has also been adopted, but may not be used till my return from England ; for the Finance Committee, before beginning their work in earnest, desire to know the result of our negotiations with the British Committee concerning our precise status in the final revision, as this will have a material bearing upon the mode of their action, and the character of the appeal to be made to American friends of revision.

I have, therefore, all the more felt it my duty to comply with the desire of the Committee as expressed in your resolution of the March meeting, and to proceed to England.

I shall spare no pains to secure as favorable terms as possible from the British Committee and from the University Presses. I shall sail to-morrow in the Inman steamer "City of Berlin," and hope to return in August. I shall make no claim on you for the reimbursement of my traveling expenses.

To relieve you from all financial care and effort during the year, even if I should fail to organize the Finance Committee, I made a special effort during the last few days to raise funds. I secured \$620 from a few friends, one of whom had already given \$500. This makes, in all, \$1,325 raised by me during the year from May, 1874. I received also several good promises for further aid.

The treasury stands now as follows :

Balance in hands of Prof. Short, May 12, . . .	\$1,064 06
" of my collections paid this day to Mr. Taylor, 324 91	
	<hr/>
	\$1,388 97

This is more than enough for our expenses till the close of the year. Mr. Taylor awaits your instructions for arrangements with Prof. Short, our faithful and efficient Treasurer.

Wishing you all a pleasant vacation, I am with great respect and affection,

Your brother and fellow-worker,  


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 PHILIP SCHAFF.

### VOTES OF THANKS.

[From the Minutes, Sept. 25, 1880. (p. 151.)]

*Voted*, That at the close of the work of the Old Testament Company, the books purchased for the use of the Committee be

presented to our Chairman, Rev. Prof. Philip Schaff, D.D., in testimony of our appreciation of his important services and faithful labors in the work of Bible revision.

[From the Minutes, Oct. 29, 1880. (p. 153.)]

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this (N. T.) Company be rendered to Dr. Schaff for the efficient and constant and successful labor which he has imposed upon himself in raising funds to meet the expenses of the American Bible revisers, and in aiding the progress of the work in various other ways. We regard these labors as having been essential and vital to our success, and we ask the Old Testament Company to join us in the expression of thanks.

[From the Minutes, Jan. 27, 1881. (p. 160.)]

*Resolved*, That the American Bible Revision Committee recognize and acknowledge the efficient and cordial co-operation which has been given to their work by the gratuitous services of Mr. Andrew L. Taylor, and hereby record their thanks for the financial furtherance of their labors due to his ready activity as their treasurer.

This acknowledgment was unanimously adopted.

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## PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTARY HISTORY.

[From the Minutes, Jan. 27, 1881. (p. 161.)]

The President, Dr. Schaff, was requested as a committee of this body to prepare a report or documentary history of the American revision work, with such reminiscences as the members might be willing to contribute.

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## RESOLUTION OF OCT. 28, 1881, RELATING TO ANNUAL MEETING AND THE PREFACE AND APPENDIX TO REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.

[From the Minutes (p. 165.), October 28, 1881.]

*Voted*, That an *annual meeting of the Committee* be held in October, and that the members residing in the city of New York be a committee of arrangements for the next meeting.

In regard to an inquiry proposed by Dr. Woolsey, whether it would be proper for individual members of the Committee to pub-

lish unfavorable criticisms upon any part of the revision, the Secretary was directed to enter upon the minutes the opinion generally expressed that such criticism is the right of each member of the Committee, but should be used in a way not to imperil the general adoption of the revision.

In regard to our relations to the English Committee,

*Voted*, That the American Committee think that the Preface of the Revised New Testament ought to have stated expressly that the American criticisms and suggestions were not only "closely and carefully *considered*," but many of them *adopted* also, and that the heading of the American Appendix ought to have been printed according to promise, exactly as written, and not so changed as to represent its appearance as a favor instead of a right, by virtue of agreement of August, 1877; and that they trust that in the Preface and Appendix which shall hereafter be issued in connection with the Old Testament these omissions may not be repeated.\*

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#### ACTIONS OF THE TWO COMPANIES AT THE ANNUAL UNION MEETING, HELD OCT. 26, 1882.

[See Minutes, pp. 174-176.]

On motion it was voted that the resolution of the Old Testament Company under date of April 28, 1882,† be approved and adopted.

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\* This resolution was by direction of the O. T. Company transmitted to the British O. T. Company, with explanatory note, July 19, 1883.

The heading of the American Appendix, as sent to England, was as follows (nearly in the language of the Agreement with the University Presses):

"The American N. T. Revision Company, having in many cases yielded their preference for certain readings and renderings, present the following instances in which they differ from the English Company, as in their view of sufficient importance to be appended to the revision, in accordance with an understanding between the Companies."

The English Company, without the knowledge or consent of the American Company, has substituted for this the following heading:

"List of readings and renderings preferred by the American Committee, recorded at their desire."

† This refers to room rent and clerk hire, and is as follows:

At a meeting of the Old Testament Company held April 28, 1882, at No. 44 Bible House, the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Old Testament Company having heard Dr. Schaff state the existing arrangements with the American Bible Society and the Finance Commit-

The report of the Committee of Arrangements was read, and the recommendations it contained were considered in their order.

It was *Voted*:

1. That a committee be appointed, with full editorial power, to make all necessary arrangements for the publication of the history of the work of the American Bible Revision Committee prepared by Dr. Schaff, with the provision that this history be not issued until the whole has been submitted in print to each member of the committee, and passed upon at a meeting of the joint Committee regularly convened. [The Committee of Publication appointed under this resolution were Drs. Schaff, Crosby, Chambers, Dwight, Abbot, and Day.]

2. *Voted*, That two committees be appointed to draw up a digest of the actual work of the American Companies, as it appears in the published revision, to be presented in print to the whole Committee, but not published until ordered, and that the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars, at least, be paid to each member of said Committee for this special service.

[Under this resolution, Bishop Lee and Drs. Abbot, Riddle, Thayer, and Dwight were appointed on the New Testament; and Drs. Osgood, Green, Chambers, and DeWitt on the Old Testament.]

3. *Voted*, That the Secretaries of the two Companies be requested to prepare a statistical report of the meetings of these Companies.

4. *Voted*, That the consideration of the fourth recommendation be postponed.\*

The President was requested to present to Col. Elliott F.

tee, as detailed in the memorandum of the Treasurer, Mr. Andrew L. Taylor (dated April 3d, 1882), in regard to the room occupied by them, and the clerk employed by the Finance Committee in their service, hereby express their entire satisfaction with the same, and desire the same to be continued till the revision work is completed.

Unanimously passed.

W. HENRY GREEN, *Chairman*.

TALBOT W. CHAMBERS, *Sec. pro tem*.

[The memorandum of Mr. Taylor referred to above and recorded in the Minutes, pp. 169-171, provides that the Am. Bible Society release the Revision Committee of all charge for rent in consideration of Dr. Schaff's paying annually "a proper and sufficient sum" for his private use of Rooms 42 and 44, when not occupied by the Committee.]

\* The fourth recommendation was as follows: "That the expediency be considered of the Companies holding further meetings to consider what changes it may seem desirable to make finally in their work."

Shepard the thanks of the Committee for his courteous invitation to a social reunion at his residence this evening.

The following resolution was adopted :

*Whereas*, the Congress of the United States, at the request of the Finance Committee, has unanimously remitted the usual duty on the copies of the Revised Version of the New Testament imported for the use of the Committee.

*Voted*, That the President and Secretary of this body be authorized to sign the legal papers required.

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ACTION OF THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING, HELD  
OCT. 25, 1883.

[See Minutes pp. 178-181.]

BIBLE REVISION COMMITTEE ROOMS,  
44 BIBLE HOUSE,  
NEW YORK, Oct. 25, 1883. }

At the annual meeting of the Committee, held at 2 o'clock this day, there were present, Drs. Schaff, Kendrick, Conant, Osgood, Packard, Thayer, Chase, Dwight, Abbot, Short, DeWitt, Crosby, Riddle, Chambers, Strong, and Day.

Letters were read from Drs. Woolsey and Hare, and Bishop Lee, expressing their regret at not being able to be present.

The President, Dr. Schaff, called upon Dr. Conant to offer prayer, after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

At the reception to be given to the Committee this evening by Mr. Morris K. Jesup, Dr. Crosby and Prof. Thayer, of the New Testament Company, were requested to make addresses; also two members of the Old Testament to be appointed by that Company. They were Dr. Chambers and Dr. DeWitt.

The President reported that the Documentary History of the American Committee on Revision was in print and that copies had been sent to all the members of the Committee, whereupon it was *voted* that the thanks of the Committee be given to Dr. Schaff for his care and labor in preparing this work, and that the circulation be limited for the present to members of the Committee with the understanding that it be regarded as private and confidential.

*Voted*, That the consideration of the question of supplying the



subscribers to the revision of the Old Testament with copies of the Documentary History be postponed till the next meeting.

*Voted*, That on the publication of the Old Testament twenty copies be given to each member of the American Revision Committee, and one copy to each member of the Finance Committee.\*

*Voted*, That the Old Testament Company at the close of their labors have authority to dispose of the furniture and other property of the Committee, with the exception of the funds in the hands of the Treasurer.

Dr. Thayer presented a report of the attendance of the members of the New Testament Company and requested further information from the members, on which it was *voted* that he be requested, in co-operation with Prof. Short, to complete the document.

The Old Testament Company reported that the means did not exist of making a complete statement of the attendance upon that body.

*Voted*, That the Old Testament Company be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for payment of expenses in the preparation of copy in carrying forward their work.

In the absence of Bishop Lee, Chairman of the Committee appointed to draw up a digest of the actual work of the American Companies as it appears in the published Revision, Prof. Dwight reported that the Committee had met three days in Cambridge, Mass., and had prepared the digest proposed, upon which it was *voted* (1) That the thanks of the whole Committee be given to this special Committee for this valuable work; (2) That this special Committee be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for what they may regard as a proper compensation to Prof. Dwight for his special part of the work on preparing this paper, in addition to what was appropriated to the members of the Committee. (See p. 175.)

Dr. Woolsey having proposed as a preparation to a second revision to be undertaken by the American Committee fourteen years after the first appeared, that the Committee consider the expediency of filling up their number from time to time, as death removes one and another, so that when the American Committee shall be able to prepare a second edition, they have a full working power and be able to go forward whether the British Revisers join them or not,—it was *voted* that the consideration of this question be reserved for the next meeting.

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[\* This resolution was reconsidered at the meeting in Oct., 1884. See below, p. 142.]

Prof. Thayer having reported that some errors had been discovered in the University editions of the Revision, a Committee, consisting of Drs. Thayer, Abbot and Riddle, was appointed to note any error or oversight, either in the text of the University editions or in the American Appendix, and to furnish the same to the University Presses, with full power of correction so far as the American Appendix is concerned.

*Voted*, That the President and Secretary be authorized to call a special meeting of the Committee at any time it may be necessary.

The Committee then adjourned.

GEORGE E. DAY, *Secretary*.

#### ACTION OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TWO COMPANIES, HELD APRIL 25, 1884.

[See Minutes, pp. 182-186.]

BIBLE REVISION COMMITTEE ROOMS, }  
42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, April 25, 1884. }

A special meeting of the Committee was held this day, at 2 P.M., in accordance with a call signed by the President and Secretary, and was opened with prayer by Professor Dwight. The members present were Drs. Schaff, Lee, Short, Dwight, Chase, Thayer, Kendrick, De Witt, Strong, Conant, Riddle, Crosby, Chambers, and Day (14).

The call for the meeting was then read, as follows :

BIBLE REVISION COMMITTEE ROOMS, }  
BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, April 14, 1884. }

DEAR SIR :

You are respectfully requested to attend a special meeting of the Revision Committee in this room on Friday, *April 25, at 2 P.M.* (the day when the O. T. Comp. expect to complete their work), for the following purposes :

1. To pay a suitable tribute of respect to the memory of our departed brother, Dr. Abbot.
2. To act on the proposal of Dr. Woolsey, laid over at the last meeting, concerning further work of the Committee.
3. To decide whether or not, and when, the Documentary History is to be published.

4. To appoint a delegation to attend the final meeting of the O. T. Comp. in London in July next.

The Committee will dine together on Friday evening after the close of the session, and the expenses of the members will be paid by the Treasurer.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP SCHAFF,  
GEORGE E. DAY.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Letters were read from Drs. Woolsey, Hare, and Packard, expressing regret at their inability to attend.

The following tribute of regard to the memory of Dr. Ezra Abbot, presented by Dr. Thayer, of the New Testament Company, was unanimously adopted,\* and a copy was directed to be sent to his widow, and also to be furnished to the press; copies also to be sent to the British Revisers and to members of the American Committee not present.

On the proposal of Dr. Woolsey, remarks were made in favor of some such provision by Drs. Crosby, Day, Thayer, Dwight and Chambers, but any formal action at present was thought to be premature, and the further consideration of the matter was postponed till the annual meeting in October.

An interesting conversation took place on the importance of giving fuller information to the public in regard to the Greek text of the Revision, for the purpose of correcting erroneous impressions.

It was understood that Dr. Thayer would soon make some communication of this kind.

In regard to the Documentary History of the Revision which subscribers to the Old Testament had been encouraged to expect, it was voted that instead of giving the documents in full, a *history* of the Revision, based upon the original documents, and including such of them as seems advisable, should be prepared. Bishop Lee and Professors Dwight and Day were appointed under this resolution.

Several members of the Committee, expecting to visit Europe in the summer, or being already abroad, viz., Drs. Schaff, Green, Day, Aiken, Chambers, and Mead, it was *voted* that they be ap-

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[\* See the last of the Memorial Papers in the Fifth Part, p. 155.]

pointed a delegation to attend the final meeting of the British Old Testament Company in London the first week in July.

The members of the Committee residing in New York were requested to make all needful arrangements for the annual meeting in October. The Committee then adjourned.

GEO. E. DAY, *Secretary*.

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ACTION OF THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING, HELD  
OCTOBER 28, 1884.

[See Minutes, pp. 187-188.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE,  
NEW YORK, October 28, 1884. }

The annual meeting of the Revision Committee, postponed at the recommendation of the Old Testament Company to this day, was held at 7½ P.M.

Present: Bishop Lee and Drs. Schaff, Packard, Osgood, Chase, Short, Dwight, Crosby, Riddle, Green, Strong, Aiken, Chambers, Thayer, DeWitt, Kendrick and Day.

After prayer by the President, Dr. Schaff, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Dr. Schaff made a statement in regard to the funds, on which it was *voted* that instead of twenty copies of the Revised Old Testament to be furnished to each member of the Committee, as ordered at a previous meeting, the number be limited to ten copies to each member.

The Committee, consisting of Bishop Lee and Professors Dwight and Day, appointed to prepare a history of the revision and of the connection between the British and American Committees on the basis of the documents and correspondence arranged and presented by Dr. Schaff at a previous meeting, reported through Prof. Dwight the draft of such a history. After remarks by Dr. Crosby, Dr. Schaff, Dr. Osgood and others, expressing their satisfaction, it was unanimously *voted* that the Documentary History of the Revision which has been presented be adopted and printed, and the copies of the same be sent to those who have subscribed to the Memorial Edition of the Revised Version.

In regard to the election of new members, the consideration of

which was postponed at the last meeting, it was *voted* that it is inexpedient to take action on this subject at present.

Prof. Thayer was authorized and requested to send to the University Presses in England any errors he may discover in the American Appendix to the Revision of the New Testament.

The Committee then adjourned, to meet at the call of the President and Secretary.

GEO. E. DAY, *Secretary*.



**Part Fifth.**

**MEMORIAL PAPERS.**





## MEMORIAL PAPERS.

### DR. HACKETT.

[From the Minutes, Nov. 26, 1875, p. 89.]

A committee consisting of Drs. Kendrick, Woolsey and Abbot was appointed to draft a minute commemorative of our associate, Dr. Hackett, deceased since our last meeting. They prepared the following paper, which was ordered to be placed on our records and a copy to be given to the press for publication:—

“With profound regret this Committee have to record the death, since their last session, of the Rev. Dr. Horatio Balch Hackett, one of our country’s most eminent biblical scholars and a loved and honored member of this board of revision. Dr. Hackett was born in Salisbury, Mass., December 27, 1808. Having been graduated with high honor from Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary, he served for four years, first as adjunct Professor of the Latin and Greek Languages and Literature in Newton Theological Institution, and during the last six years as Professor of New Testament Exegesis in the Rochester Theological Seminary. In all the positions his varied duties were discharged with eminent ability.

“As a biblical scholar he rose rapidly to take rank with the ablest scholars in our own and other lands. As a teacher he was no less distinguished, uniting exact learning and vigorous method with a devout reverence for the sacred Word, and an intense enthusiasm that kindled into life even the driest grammatical details, he made his lecture-room, to all who frequented it, a place of unwonted quickening and inspiration. As an author, his various contributions to sacred literature have been exceedingly valuable. His Commentary on the Acts is regarded abroad as well as at home as of standard excellence; and his enlarged edition (undertaken in conjunction with Dr. Ezra Abbot) of Smith’s Dictionary of the Bible, to the English edition of which he was a contributor, has greatly enhanced the value of that excellent work, and won for him the lasting gratitude of students of the Scriptures.

“Dr. Hackett came to feel deeply the need of improving our excellent standard version of the Bible. For several years he lent

his valuable services to the American Bible Union, and when the American Board of Revisers was organized to co-operate with the English Revision Committee, he entered heartily into the work as a member of the New Testament section of our body. Though his increasingly delicate health forbade his uniform attendance at the meetings, yet his presence was always warmly greeted by his colleagues in revision, and to his opinions, expressed with invariable modesty, was accorded the weight due to ripe learning and an admirably balanced judgment.

"In his personal character he was no less estimable. Retiring as he was in disposition and living in scholarly seclusion, few knew how deep and warm were his affections, and how tender his sympathies; how refined were his tastes and how varied his culture; how wide was his outlook, and how just were his judgments of public affairs; how fervid was his patriotism, and how humble and unaffected was his piety; in short, what a wealth of noble and Christian qualities lay hidden beneath that quiet exterior. In all his relations as a man, a teacher, a scholar and a Christian he commanded at once love and veneration, and his later pupils were wont to trace in his gentle and chastened enthusiasm a resemblance to the 'Beloved Disciple' whose writings he so genially expounded. Nobly has he accomplished his earthly work, and in the higher sphere to which death has translated him, he is enjoying, we doubt not, the fruits of a life of faithful consecration to the service of the Church and the Church's Lord. With heartfelt gratitude to Him who has given to the Church the blessing of such a life we place on record this imperfect tribute to his high scholarly and personal excellence."

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Committee be requested to transmit to the family of Dr. Hackett a copy of the above minute, with the assurance of our tender sympathy with them in their sore bereavement, and our prayer that the Heavenly Comforter may impart to them His abundant consolations.

GEORGE E. DAY, *Sec.*

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PROFESSOR TAYLER LEWIS.

[From the Minutes, Jan. 25, 1878, pp. 132, 134.]

42 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK, Jan. 25, 1878.

The following paper respecting the life and services of the late Prof. Tayler Lewis was adopted unanimously. It was also voted

that it be recorded in the minutes and published in the religious newspapers :

“ The death of so distinguished a scholar as Dr. Lewis calls for a passing tribute from his brethren of the American Bible Revision Committee. While his physical infirmities limited his co-operation in our work to the occasional communication of written suggestions, these were always highly prized, and his interest in the progress and success of the work was by many signs known to be deep and genuine. It was a source of much regret to the Old Testament Company that they could not enjoy more frequently and abundantly the results of his prolonged and profound biblical and philological studies.

“ From the profession of the law, which he had entered, Dr. Lewis early turned to the more congenial work of a scholar, teacher, and man of letters. For more than forty years he was by profession a teacher, and was nearly the whole of this period connected first with the University of New York and later with Union College. His special department was that of the Greek language and literature ; and after disabling infirmities cut him off from the ordinary work of the recitation room, his own genius and enthusiasm continued to inspire class after class in the lecture room, and in his parlors, with something of his own admiration for Greek literature and philosophy. His studies in Hebrew and the cognate languages began early and were prosecuted with characteristic energy and with rich results. His well-worn Hebrew Bible bears witness, through his memoranda, to the frequency with which he had many years ago re-read it in course. And he left behind him numerous and carefully elaborated comments on many of its difficult passages. The Committee cannot withhold the expression of the wish that these notes, or a judicious selection from them, may yet be published, in addition to the biblical studies which he had given to the public during his life. Dr. Lewis was no recluse. In philosophical, political and theological discussion he was deeply interested, and with unusual versatility and power took ready part in such debates. He was not merely a loyal and valiant, but an aggressive, champion of what he held to be the truth. Especially were all his energies and resources ready for the most prompt and vigorous use in maintaining the supremacy of the Word of God over all human thinking and living. With himself has passed away one who in the variety and extent of his resources and attainments has reflected honor upon

American scholarship, and whose memory will be cherished by all who appreciate his faithful labors for Christ."

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### DR. NATHAN BISHOP.

[From the Minutes, Sept. 25, 1880, p. 148.]

The following paper, prepared by Dr. Schaff, commemorative of the late Hon. Nathan Bishop, LL.D., was adopted :

"The American Revision Committee record with profound sorrow the death of Dr. Nathan Bishop, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, who was called to his reward August 7, 1880, at Saratoga, aged seventy-two years.

"We share in the universal esteem for his pure and consistently Christian character, his amiable and catholic spirit, his sound judgment, his generous liberality in promoting every good cause. He was a man who delighted in doing good without ostentation, from principle and from pure love to his Lord and his fellow-men. He took a deep and intelligent interest in the revision movement from the start, and never doubted for a moment its final success. He was the most liberal and cheerful contributor toward the expenses of our Committee, and considered it an honor and privilege to promote a cause so sacred and important to all readers of the Word of God. His name is identified with the labors of this Committee, and his memory will be cherished by all who personally knew him.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of this minute be sent to the widow of Dr. Bishop."

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### DR. WASHBURN.

[From the Minutes, Oct. 28, 1881, p. 163.]

The following memorial paper, prepared by Bishop Lee, on the death of Rev. Dr. Washburn, was read and adopted, and the Secretary was directed to send a copy of the same to his widow, and also to the public press :

"Since the conclusion of the labors of the New Testament Company, it has pleased Almighty God to take out of this world one of their number, the Reverend Edward A. Washburn, D.D., Rector of Calvary Church, in the City of New York.

"It is the desire of those associated so long with him in this

important work to place upon their records an expression of their high estimate of the character of their lamented fellow-laborer, and of their affectionate regard for his memory.

"Dr. Washburn was a man whose marked ability and noble qualities commanded universal respect, while his ready sympathy and kindliness endeared him to a large circle of friends. He was a scholar, assiduous and well trained, whose powerful mind readily grasped and fed upon knowledge, both secular and sacred. As a faithful pastor and an instructive, forcible preacher, he stood in the foremost rank. In the pursuit of truth he was honest and earnest, and in the avowal of his convictions fearless and outspoken. In his whole intercourse he was remarkably transparent, open and genuine—a man to be admired, trusted and loved.

"In the present revision of the English Bible his interest was enlisted from the beginning. He took an early and decided stand as its advocate, and the first public meeting in this country in behalf of the undertaking was held in his church. Disease, against which he manfully struggled through a large part of his life, drove him to a foreign land in search of health soon after the labors of the Committee commenced, and after his return the same cause often interrupted his attendance at our meetings. It has been a source of great regret to his associates that they lost so much of the advantage that would have accrued from his more frequent co-operation. But when he could be with us his presence was gladly welcomed, and his suggestions highly valued. Upon his connection with this work we look back with satisfaction and gratitude. He was not permitted to hail the public appearance of the volume to which he had given so much time and thought, but its saving truths were dear to his heart, and we cannot doubt through divine grace were instrumental in preparing him for the event which came so unexpectedly.

"Removed in the fulness of his ripened powers and in the height of his usefulness, his end might seem to us premature, but we bow in submission to His will who doeth all things well."

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#### DR. BURR.

[From the Minutes, Oct. 26, 1882, pp. 175-177.]

The following tribute to the memory of the Rev. Jonathan Kelsey Burr, D.D., of the New Testament Company, deceased

since our last meeting, presented by Dr. Strong, was unanimously adopted, and directed to be placed upon our minutes, with the request to Dr. Strong to communicate the same to the surviving members of Dr. Burr's family :

" The Rev. Jonathan Kelsey Burr, D.D., a member of the New Testament Company of the American Bible Revision Committee, who died April 24, 1882, was born in Middletown, Conn., September 21, 1825, and graduated from the Wesleyan University in 1845, and in 1846 was a student in the Union Theological Seminary. With the exception of the last two years of his life, when he was gradually failing with consumption, he spent the intermediate years in the active ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, occupying several of the most important pulpits within the bounds of the New Jersey and the Newark Conferences. As a preacher and pastor he held a high rank in his denomination, and was universally respected and beloved for his scholarly attainments, his uniform urbanity, and his diligent habits. He was the friend of the rich and the poor alike, and was equally welcome and at home in the elegant mansion and in the humblest dwelling. He was a man of extensive reading, of refined taste, and of thorough culture, as well as of deep but undemonstrative piety. Modesty combined with activity was a marked feature of his character, and his conduct in every relation of life evinced a genuine heartiness and an earnest sobriety which were the result of much self-discipline, a just estimate of his own powers and duties, and a manly integrity of purpose. His literary qualification for the position which he filled among us with so much ability, credit and acceptableness, was also shown in a very excellent series of annotations on the book of Job, and in occasional contributions to the religious journals. His estimable widow has since deceased, and two promising sons are thus left entire orphans. We record this memorial in token of our appreciation of his character and services, and our sympathy with his surviving friends."

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#### DR. KRAUTH.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Old Testament Company of the American Bible Revision Company held in the Bible House, New York, February 23d, 1883, the following tribute to the memory of our late associate, the Rev. Dr. Charles P. Kranth, Vice-Provost

of the University of Pennsylvania, was adopted and directed to be presented to the whole Committee at their next annual meeting in order to be placed upon their records.

GEORGE E. DAY, Secretary.

CHARLES PORTERFIELD KRAUTH, D.D., LL. D.

Born March 17th, 1823, in Martinsburg, Va.

Died January 2d, 1883, in Philadelphia, Pa.

His paternal grandfather came to this country from Germany in the latter part of the last century, and was teacher and organist in one of the Reformed churches. His father, Charles Philip Krauth (1797-1867), was successively pastor of Lutheran churches in Martinsburg and Philadelphia, President of Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, and Professor in the Theological Seminary at the same place. Our friend and associate was his oldest son, and consequently enjoyed great advantages in his early training. He was graduated in 1839 from the college of which his father was president, and immediately commenced theological studies under Drs. Schmucker and Schmidt. Having concluded these with high honor, he was ordained in 1842, and became pastor of a church in Baltimore. Subsequently he held the same office in Winchester, Va., and in Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1859 he was called to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, and two years afterward became editor of the *Lutheran and Missionary*, through which he made himself widely felt throughout the religious press. In 1864 he was appointed Professor of Theology and Church History in the new Seminary then established in Philadelphia. In 1868 he was elected to the chair of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy in the University of Pennsylvania, and five years afterward was made Vice-Provost of the institution. In the discharge of the duties of these various offices, together with occasional preaching of the Word, he continued until his death, constantly growing in influence and usefulness as time developed his rare qualities in guiding and stimulating the young men under his charge. But his earthly tabernacle proved frailer than one would have supposed from his commanding presence. He sought to gain relief from growing infirmities by a visit to Europe in the year 1880, but the improvement was superficial and short-lived, and on the 2d day of this year, after an illness of a fortnight, he quietly fell asleep in Jesus.

Our friend did not round out the usual measure of man's days,

but he performed enough work to satisfy the most exacting demand. His course, whether in the pulpit, or the editorial room, or the professorial chair, was one of incessant activity. His published writings are numerous. They consist not only of such elaborate volumes as the *Conservative Reformation and its Theology*, the translation of Tholuck's *Commentary on the Gospel of John*, the enlargement of Fleming's *Vocabulary of Philosophy*, a new edition of Berkeley's *Philosophical Writings*, but also of various minor treatises touching questions in Theology and Church History, by which he exerted a vast influence in his own denomination. His mind, strong and versatile by nature, was assiduously cultivated from early youth. His studies were confined mainly to theology in its various branches, to philosophy and literature in its wide acceptance. He had accumulated a very large private library (14,000 volumes) which was a selection as well as a collection. He was, consequently, unusually well informed on all matters relating to his chosen sphere, being a careful as well as a constant reader. This fact made him a formidable antagonist in any question respecting the history of opinion.

In his theological views he was a Lutheran of the Lutherans, being a zealous defender and maintainer of the *Augustana*, pure and simple, and he headed the reaction which has been going on for a generation in our country against the influences which were thought to assail the integrity or the authority of the venerable Confession of Augsburg. But while he strove with all his might for the preservation of Lutheran doctrine and order, he cherished a catholic spirit, and took a cordial interest in the prosperity of all evangelical Christians. He became a member of this body from the commencement, and although hindered, sometimes by professional engagements, at others by the state of his health, from being as regular in attendance as was desirable, his presence was always an advantage, and his large acquaintance with the early English versions of the Scriptures, and with the best idioms of our tongue, made his suggestions often of very great value in the settlement of a disputed issue. In personal intercourse he was one of the most delightful of companions, genial, courteous, full of resources, sparkling with wit and anecdote, yet always preserving the elevated tone of a Christian gentleman. It would have been gratifying if he had been spared to witness the termination of our labors, and rejoice with us in a successful result. But the Lord saw fit to order events otherwise, and we bow in



submission to His holy will, taking a melancholy pleasure in putting on record this testimonial to our departed brother. His death is a great loss not only to the important religious body of which he was a shining ornament, but also to the whole Church of Christ in this land, and to the republic of letters. Our country has produced few men who united in their own persons so many of the excellences which distinguish the scholar, the theologian, the exegete, the debater, and the leader of his brethren, as did our accomplished associate. His learning did not smother his genius, nor did his philosophical attainments impair the simplicity of his faith. All gifts and all acquisitions were sedulously made subservient to the Gospel of Christ. He illustrated his teachings by his life, and has left behind him a memory precious and fragrant not only to his own large communion but to multitudes beyond its pale.

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EZRA ABBOT, D.D., LL.D.

Born in Jackson, Maine, April 28, 1819.

Died in Cambridge, Mass., March 21, 1884.

*"The grass withereth, and the flower falleth; but the word of the Lord abideth forever."*

In the death of Professor Abbot the New Testament Revision Company are summoned a third time, since the completion of their work, to mourn the departure of one of their number. With their associates of the Old Testament Company they would reverently bow to the Divine appointment, and thoughtfully take to heart its admonitions.

The secluded life of Dr. Abbot, and his singularly modest and retiring disposition, rendered him almost, if not quite, a stranger to every one of us till we entered on our work together in these rooms. In general deliberations respecting matters of business, and particularly in those discussions, alike animated and delicate, which involved our relations to the English Revisers and the University Presses, his voice was heard but seldom. Yet whenever he spoke, his characteristic clearness of apprehension, his accurate and complete recollection of facts, his judicial impartiality and dispassionateness, and above all his personal willingness to become anything or nothing, if so be the Word of God in

its purity might have the freer course, seldom failed to become manifest.

His sphere of conspicuous service, however, was the Revision work. Always one of the first in his place at the table, and one of the last to quit it, he brought with him thither the results of careful preparation. His suggestions were seldom the promptings of the moment. Hence they always commanded consideration; often secured instant adoption. Well versed in the resources of our ancestral tongue, gifted with an ear for its rhythm, and trained to a nice discrimination in his use of it, he rendered appreciable service in securing for the new translation certain felicities of expression to which its critics, amid their clamorous censure of its defects, have hitherto failed to render due recognition. But it was in questions affecting the Greek text that Dr. Abbot's exceptional gifts and attainments were pre-eminently helpful. Several of his essays on debated passages, appended to the printed reports of our proceedings which were forwarded from time to time to the brethren in England, are among the most thorough discussions of the sort which are extant, won immediate respect for American scholarship in this department, and had no small influence in determining that form of the sacred text which will ultimately, we believe, find acceptance with all Christian scholars.

To his distinction as a scholar, Dr. Abbot added rare excellence as a Christian. Such chastened sweetness of disposition, such disciplined regard for the sensibilities of his associates, such studied generosity in debate, such patient deference when overruled, such magnanimous equanimity in victory as were habitual with him, were never surpassed among us. Differing from the rest of us as he did in some of his theological tenets, his Christ-like temper rendered him a brother beloved, and lends a heavenly lustre to his memory.

We, his survivors, desire to place on record our affectionate tribute to his worth, and to offer to his bereaved kindred a tender expression of our sympathy.

REVISION ROOMS, 42 AND 44 BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK,  
FRIDAY, April 25, 1884.

The above minute, presented by Dr. Thayer, was unanimously adopted by the Committee.

## **Part Sixth.**

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND  
LIST OF DONORS AND SUBSCRIBERS.**

left in the treasury, it will be devoted to some benevolent object connected with Bible Revision or Bible distribution.

The gentlemen who first constituted the Finance Committee, or who afterward became connected with it, are :

Nathan Bishop, LL.D., New York. (D. 1880.)  
 Rev. William Adams, D.D., New York. (D. 1880.)  
 Rev. Thos. D. Anderson, D.D., New York. (D. 1881.)  
 Mr. A. S. Barnes, New York.  
 Mr. M. C. D. Borden, New York.  
 Mr. Alexander Brown, Philadelphia.  
 Mr. Jas. M. Brown, New York.  
 Mr. Wm. A. Cauldwell, New York.  
 Mr. Wm. E. Dodge, New York. (D. 1883.)  
 Rev. H. Dyer, D.D., New York.  
 Mr. John Elliott, New York.  
 Judge E. L. Fancher, LL.D., New York.  
 Prof. Wm. Gammell, LL.D., Providence, R. I.  
 Mr. John C. Havemeyer, New York.  
 Mr. Morris K. Jesup, New York.  
 Mr. Francis T. King, Baltimore, Md.  
 Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter, D.D., New York.  
 Mr. Howard Potter, New York.  
 Mr. S. B. Schieffelin, New York.  
 Mr. Elliott F. Shepard, New York.  
 Mr. John Sloane, New York.  
 Mr. Roswell Smith, New York. (Resigned 1881.)  
 Rev. R. S. Storrs, D.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Mr. Andrew L. Taylor, New York.  
 Mr. Chas. Tracy, New York.  
 Mr. John B. Trevor, New York.  
 Mr. Alexander Van Rensselaer, New York. (D. 1878.)  
 Mr. Samuel D. Warren, Boston, Mass.  
 Mr. Norman White, New York. (D. 1883.)  
 Mr. F. S. Winston, New York.

The officers of the Finance Committee have been:

Nathan Bishop, LL.D., Chairman (died, 1880).  
 Judge E. L. Fancher, LL.D., Chairman (since 1880).  
 Andrew L. Taylor, Treasurer.

The Treasurer reports the total amount of contributions (including remission of duties and other items) from the beginning of the work in 1872 to May 11, 1883, as \$44,761.60.

The expenses during the same period for traveling, for clerk hire, for office expenses, for printing, and for books have been \$35,225.66, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$9,535.94 on May 11, 1883, on which date the account was examined and certified to by the Auditing Committee.

The supplemental statement of the Treasurer from May 11, 1883, to January 29, 1885, shows total receipts to that date \$47,561.46, and total payments \$38,469.67, and a balance in the treasury of \$9,091.79.

The balance in hand will be used for the further expenses of the Committee, for the publication of a Documentary History, and for the purchase of Memorial copies of the Revised Old Testament.

The following resolution, passed unanimously by the Revision Committee, finds an appropriate place at this point :

[From the Minutes, Jan. 27, 1881, p. 160.]

*Resolved*, That the American Bible Revision Committee recognize and acknowledge the efficient and cordial co-operation which has been given to their work by the gratuitous services of Mr. Andrew L. Taylor, and hereby record their thanks for the financial furtherance of their labors due to his ready activity as their Treasurer.

This acknowledgment was unanimously adopted.



LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO THE FUND  
FOR DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES  
OF THE  
AMERICAN BIBLE REVISION COMMITTEE,  
FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WORK,  
October, 1872, to March 1st, 1881.

Some donors in the following list have contributed more than once. The amount set opposite their names is the aggregate of their several contributions.  
Future contributions will be acknowledged in a supplementary list.

Abbe, Robt, New York.....	\$10 00	Backus, John C., (Rev.) Baltimore	10 00
Abbot, Geo. Maurice, Phila...	10 00	Bacon, S. J., New York.....	20 00
A Friend, (thro' Dr. Schaff)....	100 00	Bailey, Latimer, New York....	75 00
A Friend.....	100 00	Baird, John, New York.....	20 00
A Friend.....	5 00	Baker, H. E., Detroit, Mich....	5 00
A Friend.....	75	Baker, H. K., Hollowell, Maine.	10 00
A Friend (by Rev. Dr. Pomeroy), Cleveland, O.....	3 00	Baker, Miss Julia, New York...	10 00
A Friend (thro' Dr. Schaff)....	100 00	Baker, John R., Phila.....	10 00
A Friend (thro' Dr. Schaff)....	10 00	Baker, Miss P. A., New York...	10 00
A Friend (thro' Dr. Schaff)....	100 00	Baldwin, Mrs., New York.....	10 00
A Friend (thro' Dr. Schaff)....	5 00	Baldwin, C. H., Columbia, S. C.....	10 00
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Aitken, John, New York.....	20 00	Baldwin, Simeon E., New Haven Conn.....	50 00
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Alexander, Jas. W., New York..	10 00	Banks, James L., New York....	25 00
Alexander, Wm., Toronto, Can- ada.....	10 00	Barbour, Robt., Lake George, N. Y.....	10 00
Allen, Arthur H., (Rev.) Islip, N. Y.....	10 00	Barbour, Wm., New York.....	5 00
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Allen, R. D. H., Pequabuck, Conn	10 00	Barlow, George, Brooklyn, N. Y.	10 00
Allen, Wm. H., Phila.....	50 00	Barlow, J. M., New York.....	50 00
Allinson, Saml, Yardville, N. J.	10 00	Barnard, F. A. P., (Rev.) New York.....	10 00
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Anonymous.....	12 00	Barnes, Theo. M., New York...	10 00
Anonymous.....	10 00	Bartlett, Edward O., Kingston, R. I.....	10 00
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Condit, Blackford, Terre Haute, Ind. ....	10 00	Dowd, Wm., New York. ....	10 00
Condit, Frederic, Providence, R. I. ....	10 00	Downer, Mrs. E., New York. .	30 00
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Conger, Clarence R., New York. .	10 00	Drake, James H., New York. ....	10 00
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Conkling, D. B., (Rev.) Savan- nan, Ga. ....	10 00	DuBois, Abram, New York. ....	20 00
Contoitt, Chas. H., New York. .	10 00	DuBois, M. B., New York. ....	10 00
		Dulles, John Welsh, Phila. ....	10 00
		Dunham, Austin, Hartford, Ct.	100 00
		Dunham, G. H., New York. ....	25 00
		Dunlop, John, Richmond, Va. .	10 00

Dunn, James, Petersburg, Va...	10 00	Fisher, Wm. P., (Rev.) Bruns-	
Dusenberry, Charles E., Troy,		wick, Me.....	10 00
N. Y.....	5 00	Fitch, Wm., New Haven, Ct....	200 00
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		N. J.....	10 00
Easter, Hamilton, Baltimore...	10 00	Flint, Waldo, Boston.....	10 00
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Eaton, J. R., Liberty, Mo.....	10 00	Forsyth, John, (Rev.) West Point,	
Eaton, T. T., (Rev.) Petersburg,		N. Y.....	10 00
Va.....	10 00	Foster, Lafayette S., Norwich,	
Eccleston, J. H., (Rev.) Newark,		Conn.....	50 00
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Eddy Zachary, (Rev.) Detroit,		York.....	100 00
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Pa.....	10 00	Fraser, Jas., New York.....	10 00
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Elliot, Wm., Iroquois, Ontario...	10 00	Freeland, Theo. H., New York...	10 00
Elliott, John, New York.....	150 00	Frelinghuysen, F. T., Newark	
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N. Y.....	10 00	French, Edward W., (Rev.) Jer-	
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Estes, Charles, Augusta, Ga....	10 00	R. I.....	100 00
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		Gasten, Robt., Brooklyn, N. Y...	10 00
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burg, Vt.....	10 00	Gaylord, Wm. L., (Rev.) Chico-	
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Wis.....	10 00	Va.....	10 00
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Fay, Jos. S., Boston.....	25 00	Goddard, E. W., Concord, N. H.	20 00
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Ct.....	50 00	dence, R. I.....	100 00
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Greene, E. K., Montreal, Canada	10 00	Hastings, Thos. S., (Rev.) New	
Greene, Jacob L., Hartford, Ct. .	10 00	York .....	20 00
Greene, Stephen, Phila.....	10 00	Hatch, H. R., Cleveland, O. ....	20 00
Gregory, H. D., (Rev.) Blairs-		Havemeyer, J. C., New York ..	90 00
town, N. J. ....	10 00	Haven, Henry P., New London,	
Greshom, John J., Macon, Ga. .	10 00	Ct. ....	100 00
Grier, John D., Chambersburg,		Hawkes, Winfield Scott, (Rev.)	
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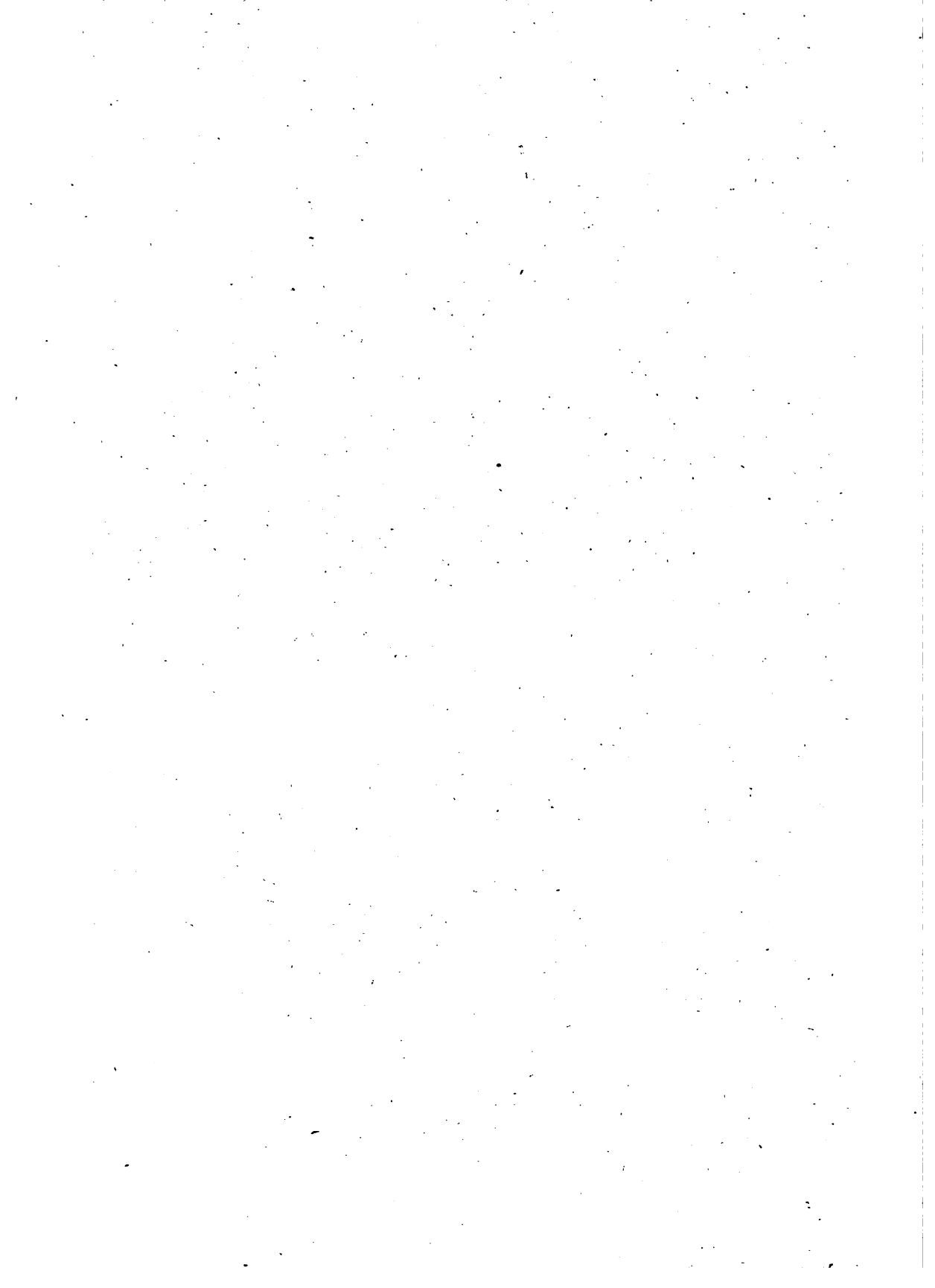
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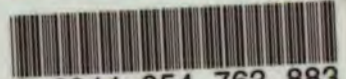
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